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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Rents Bill

THE fate of the Rents Bill due to be determined by the British Parliament holds more than passing interest for Hongkong. The Colony, repleved last year from the threat of increased rents and partial decontrol will wonder whether approval of the Tory legislation, which is aimed at decontrolling domestic property, will have any repercussions here. Certainly it would not be surprising if it stimulated renewed agitation by property owners for further amendments to the existing Landlord and Tenant Ordinance. Basically the objections in Britain to decontrol of rents are those put forward in Hongkong, the chief of them being that tenants will be thrown on the mercies of landlords and will be deprived of security of tenure. Nevertheless the housing problem of Britain possesses some distinct features which require appreciation.

There is a complex background. Britain's 60 million people live in some 15 million houses. The 1951 Census showed there were 14 million householders with three or more rooms per person. Yet in the same year the country was short of 1,700,000 dwellings. Since then nearly two million houses have been built, but there is still a shortage of accommodation.

THE British government explains this seeming paradox as being due to the distortions of rent control and claims that a market in rented accommodation should be restored in order to facilitate the movement of families and to attract back that market accommodation which owners are now actually withdrawing because it is rarely feasible to let those houses at the prices allowed by law. This line of argument provides the basis for the new Rents Bill.

What will be its effects if and when it becomes law? Nearly five million owner-occupied houses would cease to be rent-controlled; many of these, or parts of them suitably remodelled, would probably enter the market for letting. A further 800,000 otherwise controlled would be decontrolled. There would still be it is estimated, some five million houses let at controlled rents. And for houses remaining controlled, revised rent limits would be fixed.

BUT no matter with what force of logic the government presents its case for the Rents Bill, it is legislation which will make no wide popular appeal. Politically the government is handling a dangerous subject. The Tories' loss of the North Lewisham by-election is largely attributed to public dislike of the Bill.

A three-line party Whip when the time comes to voting on the measure can, of course, ensure its passage through the House of Commons. But before this the government may find itself compelled to revise its ideas on the proposed legislation.

If Lewisham were to be repeated in some or any of the impending seven by-elections, Mr Macmillan could hardly avoid recognising the implication that pursuit of the Rents Bill, particularly in its present form, would presage the downfall of his government.

Policy Switch On Israel? New Turn In Mid-East Crisis IKE CALLS IN PARTY CHIEFS

FLYING TO WASHINGTON

CUTS SHORT HOLIDAY IN GEORGIA

Thomasville, Feb. 18. President Eisenhower tonight cut short his South Georgia vacation to return to Washington tomorrow.

He called chief Republican and Democratic leaders of the House and Senate to a White House meeting on Wednesday on the Middle East crisis.

UNUSUAL COURSE

Eisenhower seldom summons leaders of both parties unless he is developing major policy. The fact that he called a meeting at the White House on Wednesday underlined the gravity of the Middle East situation, particularly Israel's refusal to withdraw from the Gaza strip.

The President, who had planned to stay here until next Sunday, announced late today he would return to Washington tomorrow.

The President arranged the Wednesday meeting for 8:30 a.m. with the Vice President, Mr Richard Nixon, the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles and the bipartisan leadership of the House and Senate, including ranking majority and minority members of the Foreign Affairs, Appropriations and Armed Services Committees.

PHONES DULLES

Mr Eisenhower has not called together a similar group since he previewed his state of the Union message early last month.

Mr Eisenhower conferred again by telephone with Mr Dulles during the day, putting aside hunting and golf to keep close contact with the international situation.

The Press Secretary, Mr James Hagerty said they conferred on possible "further action" in the U.N. by the United States but he denied there was any plan for the chief executive to appear personally before the U.N.—United Press.

MAY CONSIDER SANCTIONS

UN DEBATE PUT OFF FOR A DAY

New York, Feb. 18.

The United Nations General Assembly put off until Thursday a debate on the Middle East situation scheduled for tomorrow, it was announced today.

The assembly originally was expected to open the debate today, but this was postponed last Saturday until Tuesday.

Behind the scenes, talks are going on to persuade Israel to modify her determination not to withdraw troops from Egyptian territory unless she receives certain safeguards.

The United States asked for the postponement, as it had done several times previously while Mr John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State, was negotiating with Mr Abba Eban, the Israeli Ambassador.

TWO DEVELOPMENTS

United Nations sources said the other delegations acceded to the United States request.

Because of the postponement the Arab-Asian group of 27 states called off a meeting they had arranged for tonight to discuss a sanctions move against Israel. It was understood the new postponement—following one from Friday until today and another from today until tomorrow—was, to allow time for two developments:

★ The full effect of President Eisenhower's strong week-end statement on the Israeli people;

★ President Eisenhower will have top-level consultations on new steps in the event of continued Israeli defiance of Assembly resolutions. These would include the possibility of United States support for sanctions.

The sanctions question is a major political issue in this country, since both Republican and Democratic leaders have gone on record against it.—Reuter.

MENON ILL



New York, 18. Mr V. K. Krishna Menon, Indian Minister without portfolio, was taken ill last night in his hotel room shortly after returning to New York from Washington, where he took part in a television show. Indian sources said he was running a high fever and was at once put to bed. His doctor was called. Mr Menon's illness was diagnosed as "complete exhaustion."—Reuter.

Hungarian Student On Murder Charge

Budapest, Feb. 18. A frail-looking 25-year-old woman medical student and 10 other defendants, aged from 19 to 28, went on trial today on charges of having murdered a wounded man during the Hungarian uprising on the assumption he was a member of the secret police.

The student, Ilona Toth, was the chief accused. She was accused, along with other defendants of having administered a shot of gasoline to the man and then of injecting air into his heart to kill him. The man was said to have been one of several people taken to a hospital where Miss Toth and other students were treating the wounded during the uprising.

WE LIVE

The defendants, who also included writer Joseph Goll, were alleged to have set up an anti-Soviet and anti-government cell in the hospital in the days which followed the Russian intervention.

They were said to have edited an underground journal called, "We Live".

The defendants included workers, students, office employees, journalists and one former convict who had infiltrated himself inside the group during the uprising.

Before the trial, Ilona Toth told the press, "Whatever I have done, I cannot consider myself a murderer."—France-Press.

'Good Old Joe' —by Khrushchev

CONQUEROR OF THE NAZIS

Moscow, Feb. 18.

Soviet Party Chief Nikita Khrushchev tonight praised Josef Stalin as the conqueror of the Nazis. Only months ago the Soviet Press accused the late Premier of failing to prepare the country for the German attack.

Mr Khrushchev further pushed Stalin along the path to rehabilitation at a reception in the Sovetskaya Hotel for visiting Bulgarian party and government leaders.

"Our people and our party won the war under Stalin and this Stalin we do not want to abandon," he said.

He said that while Communists have criticised Stalin's faults, this should not obscure his achievements.

SAME LINE

Rambling from one topic to another, Mr Khrushchev also promised that the new Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko would pursue the same policies as Mr Dmitri Shepilov, whom he succeeded, because "our policies are not made by the man but by the government."

He also warned the West against not to attack Russia, pointing to the fate of Hitler as one good reason why.

Mr Khrushchev, who inaugurated the de-Stalinisation programme last February, praised Stalin as a "great Communist and a great defender of the Marxist line who defeated the Fascists."

It was the second time that Mr Khrushchev has praised Stalin's handling of foreign affairs.

FOR CHOU

On January 17, at a reception for the visiting Chinese Communist Premier, Mr Chou En-lai, he praised Stalin as a "model Communist" who was "fighting for the interests of the working class."—United Press.

FROM GERMANY TO HONGKONG?

Bonn, Feb. 18. Withdrawal of 30,000 troops from Great Britain's 80,000-man Rhine Army probably will not take place before autumn, an authoritative British source said today.

That would coincide — though more or less accidentally — with the raising of the first three of 12 divisions which West Germany has promised to contribute to Western defence.

By the end of the year she will have five partially trained divisions under arms. British sources said the withdrawal will be a highly complicated operation involving shipping some units at present in Germany to other stations such as Cyprus, Malaya or Hongkong.—United Press.

Pigeon Kidnapper Is Caught By Own Bird

Gelsenkirchen, Feb. 18. A pigeon kidnapper who was caught by one of his own birds was given an eight-month suspended sentence and a 150 marks fine today.

Truck driver Johann Schonhoff stole six pigeons from bird fancier Willi Schaefer last July. Then he sent one of his own pigeons in a box to Schaefer.

Wrapped around the bird's leg was a ransom note demanding that Schaefer attach a 50-mark bill to the pigeon and release him or his own birds "would die."

Schaefer, however, waited and soon one of the stolen birds arrived with a reduced-rate

ransom note demanding only 20 marks. He called the police and a giant air-ground search was prepared.

Schonhoff read about the search plans in local papers and in panic released the other five birds. But the hunt was on. Schaefer led bright streamers to the ransom taker's pigeon and released it. Its flight was followed by two private planes, 12 police cars, and thousands of militant bird watchers armed with binoculars and bicycles.

The pigeon fluttered into its home loft at Schonhoff's house and the police converged on his apartment to make the arrest.—United Press.

Brothers Seize Red Trawler At Gunpoint

Copenhagen, Feb. 18. Two Polish brothers arrived today, asking political asylum, aboard their trawler after they fought a violent battle aboard and locked the captain and other crew members in the cabin.

The brothers, 21 and 22, whose names were not revealed, demanded that the trawler, which was fishing in the Baltic, head for Denmark.

The captain refused and the brothers drew pistols and ordered other crew members into the cabin, they said.

The men resisted, but after one of the crew was wounded the captain and his crew abandoned the fight and went down into the cabin.

The brothers brought the ship into port. The injured man was treated and the captain took the trawler and made for a Polish port.

The brothers were questioned by the police after asking for asylum.—United Press.

The Queen Looked Startled

Lisbon, Feb. 18.

The Queen looked startled today when a spectator hurled a missile through the open window of her carriage during a state ride through Lisbon.

But she smiled brightly after discovering it was a floral bouquet.—United Press.

RUSSIA'S BIG DRIVE TO COLONISE 'THE VIRGIN LANDS'

Moscow, Feb. 18.

Russia is offering unprecedented financial and other inducements to persuade farmers and workers to move to the Far East where vast new economic regions are destined to grow in the next 10-15 years.

People who accept the offer to start life anew with their families in Primorsky Krai, on the Chinese border, will benefit by free travel for the family and its cattle with two tons of private family possessions, according to a State advertisement appearing today.

They will receive a cash payment of 4,000 roubles (about £200 at the official exchange rate) for the head of each family plus 300 roubles (£27) for other members of the family, tax exemption for the first five years in the new lands, and immunity from state grain procurements.

On arrival in the Far East, they will get 330 pounds of flour for the head of the family and 110 pounds for other individuals.

They will be granted 15,000 roubles (£1,500) to build a house, repayable in 10 years, and a further credit of 2,000 roubles (£200) repayable in three years to stock up with cattle and other items.

A state advertisement, appearing in Soviet Moldavia, organ of the Moldavian Republic, publican Government on the day.—United Press.

Washington, Feb. 18. The US Vice President, Mr Richard Nixon, will pay an official visit to King Haile Selassie of Ethiopia in March, United States officials said today.—United Press.

Skier In Fatal Collision With Spectator

Bregenz, Feb. 10. A spectator was accidentally killed by a skier in a ski competition at Lech - am - Arber near here today.

The skier accidentally left the course and collided at high speed into Anna Maria Angerer, a 21-year-old German girl. The girl was killed instantaneously. The skier suffered a broken leg.—France-Press.

WANTED MEN KILLED IN CYPRUS

Nicosia, Feb. 18. Three Eoka terrorist gunmen, two of them with £5,000 on their heads, were killed or captured during the last 24 hours in sharp clashes between Eoka men and British security forces in Cyprus. It was officially announced today.

Killed were 20-year-old Demetris Christodoulou and Soliris Taangari.

Eoka leader and bomb expert Christos Lemos was captured, the announcement said.

One British soldier was killed in the gun battles, and the hunt for other Eoka men was continuing, the announcement said.—France-Press.

Pakistan Agrees To Kashmir Move

United Nations, Feb. 18. The Pakistan Foreign Minister approved the draft resolution presented in the Security Council by the United States, Britain and Australia request-

6am MYSTERY WAIL WAKES HUNDREDS

A wailing siren woke up hundreds of harbour-side residents in Hongkong at about 6 a.m. today.

A YWCA resident almost had hysterics. While the sky was still dark the eerie wail began. It sounded like an air-raid siren, but then it wavered up to a shrill squeal, and down to a dreadful moan.

It lasted about two minutes. "It sounded like an air-raid siren with a cold—or some pre-dreadful monster," said a Macdonnell Road resident.

A fire-float perhaps, suggested a Bowen Road resident. Later this morning the China Mail set about unravelling the mystery.

DISCONNECTED

The Police said: "We heard it but don't know what it was." The Marine Police said: "No information."

The Marine Department said: "Sorry we know nothing about it."

The Civil Aid Services said: "Couldn't be us because our sirens are disconnected."

Someone suggested it was a US Navy submarine. "Not us," said the Navy attaché.

Someone else suggested the dredger Malena lying in mid-harbour.

But it was not her either. Then the Royal Navy: "It was HMS Newfoundland. She went out on exercises this morning. They always test the siren before going to sea. But this morning it got stuck."

Singapore Group Going To UK

Singapore, Feb. 18. Singapore will send a five-man mission to London next month to negotiate for self-government for this island colony. It was announced tonight.

The Singapore group is scheduled to open constitutional talks with the Colonial Office on March 11.

Mr Lim Yew Hock, the Singapore Chief Minister, said the mission would comprise three representatives from his Labour Front Government, and one each from the Liberal-Socialist Party and the People's Action Party.—Reuter.

German Leader Meets Dulles

Washington, Feb. 18. Herr Erich Ollenhauer, the West German Socialist leader, conferred for an hour today with Mr John Foster Dulles, the United States Secretary of State.

Herr Ollenhauer told reporters he had a "very instructive talk" with Mr Dulles on a variety of European problems and on the Middle East, though no concrete proposals were exchanged.—Reuter.

Snow Avalanche Kills Three

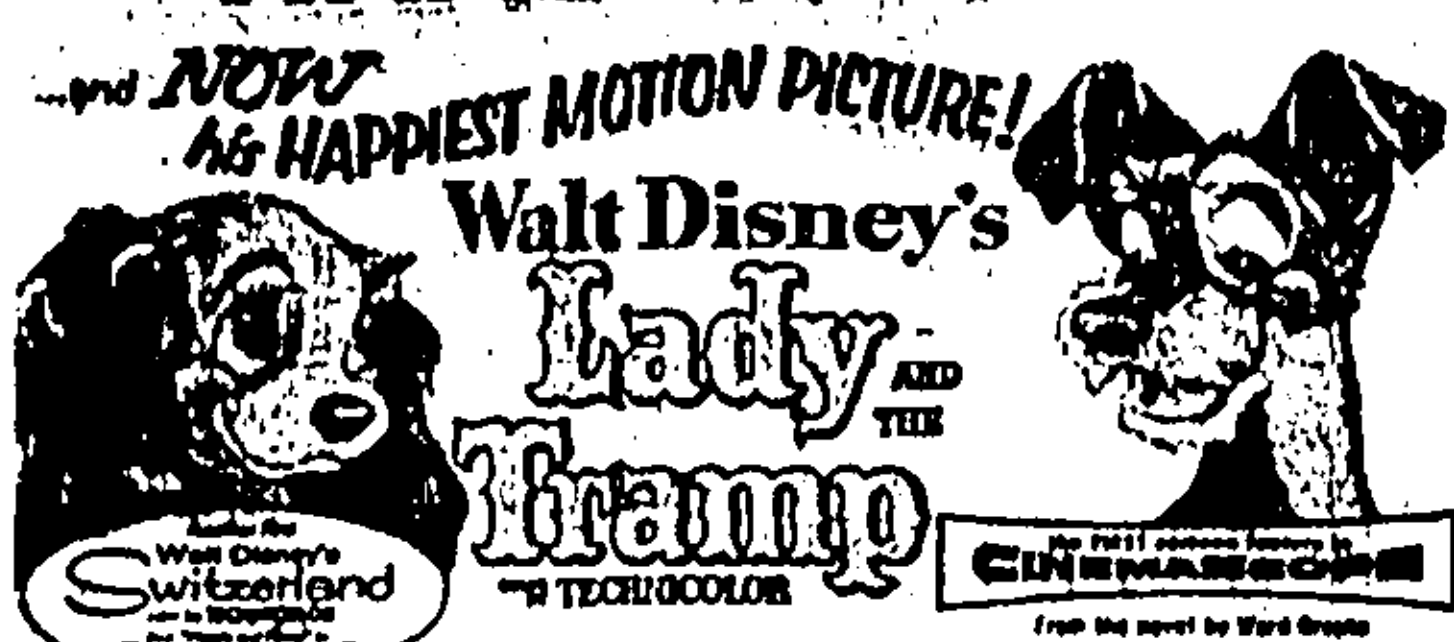
Bolzano, Feb. 18. An Alpine avalanche buried 30 Italian ski troopers on winter manoeuvres today on Mount Lavarone.

Rescuers digging through the snow reported three dead and six injured. It was feared others were still buried under the avalanche.—United Press.



From every point of view



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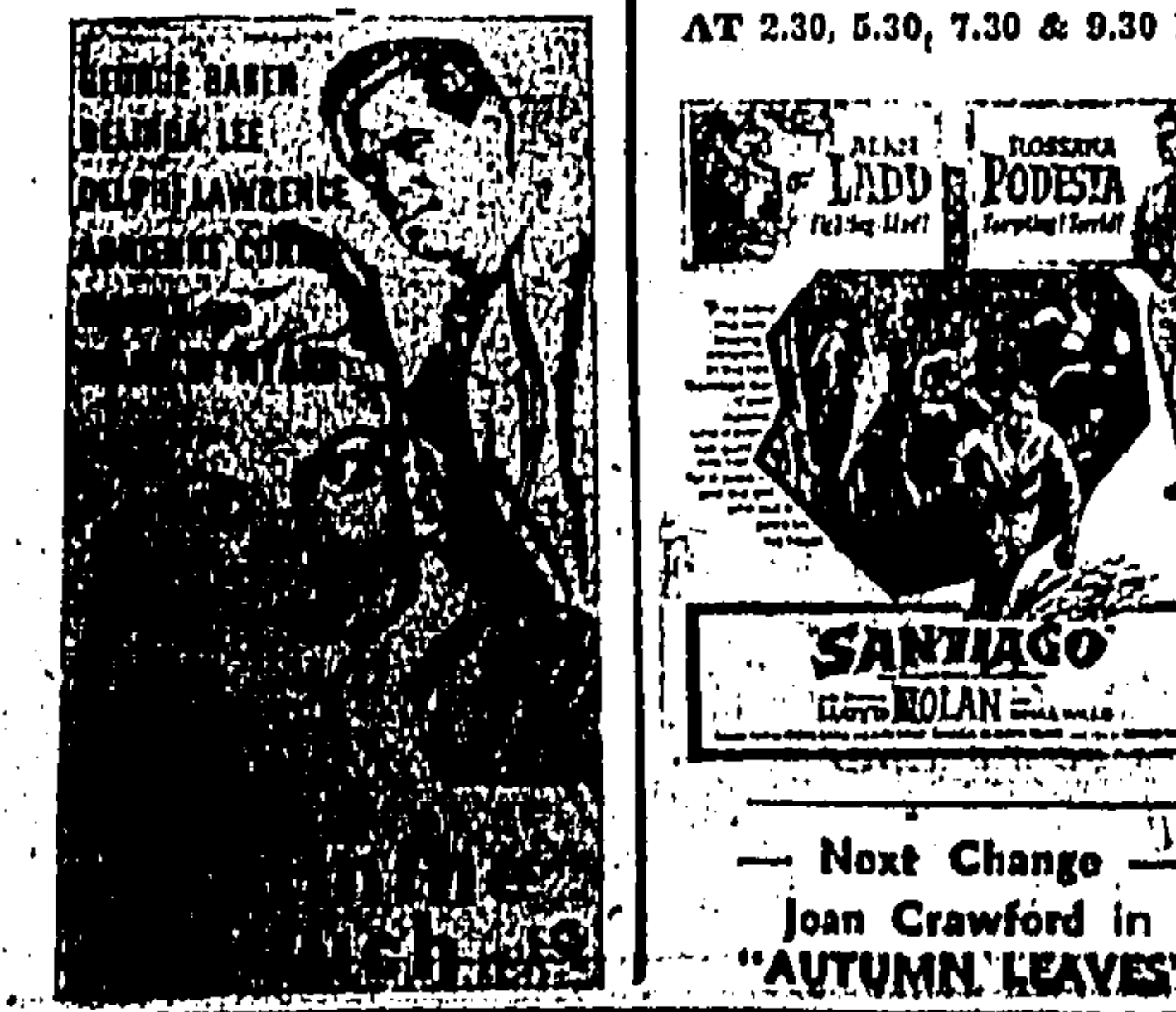
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— Next Change —
Joan Crawford in
"AUTUMN LEAVES"

Demonstrations In Athens

—Greek students recently carried out more anti-British demonstrations in Athens while UNO was debating the Cyprus question. Police had great difficulty in breaking up the demonstrations. Picture shows police chasing some of the demonstrators. The posters read: "Shame on England." —Express Photo.

Britain And Greece Submit Cyprus Resolutions

United Nations, Feb. 18.

The following is the text of the draft resolution on Cyprus submitted by the United Kingdom today:

The General Assembly, Considering that it is inherent in the Charter of the United Nations that states shall live together as good neighbours and refrain from intervening in the internal affairs of other States,

Noting the complaint of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that over a considerable period terrorist organisations in Cyprus have received support from Greece in the form of arms, ammunition and money,

Noting the fact that despite repeated representations by the Government of the United Kingdom, Athens radio has regularly broadcast special programmes to Cyprus containing incitements to insurrection and violence,

Call On Greece

Calls upon the Government of Greece to take effective measures to prevent support or encouragement from Greece for terrorism in Cyprus.

The following is the text of the draft resolution submitted by Greece:

The General Assembly, Having examined the question of Cyprus, Recognising the right of the people of Cyprus to self-determination in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, Considering that the situation in Cyprus has gravely deteriorated,

Equitable

Considering further that an equitable solution of this question will contribute to peace and stability in that area,

Expresses the wish that the people of Cyprus be given the opportunity to determine their own future by the application of their right to self-determination. —United Press.

Indonesian Premier To Remain

Djakarta, Feb. 18.

All Sastroamidjojo will remain as Prime Minister in the new government being formed by President Soekarno, the Nationalist Party Sulu Indonesian newspaper claimed today.

Quoting a source "close to the President", the newspaper, representing Sastroamidjojo's party, said the Prime Minister will head a coalition cabinet in which the Communists will hold three ministerial posts out of 25.

President Soekarno was scheduled to announce on Thursday the formation of a "new" cabinet, the creation of an advisory revolutionary council and other plans for his "guided democracy."

Press reports said that the cabinet will include the Nationalist, Moslem Masjumi, Orthodox Moslem Neadatul Ulama and Communist parties on the ministerial level. —United Press.

ARMoured DIVISION LEAVING LIBYA

London, Feb. 19.

The number of British troops stationed in Libya, Britain's last Mediterranean base on the African mainland, may be reduced, the British Press Association reported today.

But the domestic news agency said it understood that there was "no possibility" that Britain would completely abandon the base there at present.

This message was issued after early editions of today's Daily Mail had splashed a report that Mr Duncan Sandys, the British Defence Minister, had decided that British troops were to leave Libya.

The newspaper declared that Mr Sandys had decided that the "presence of the 10th Armoured Division of 15,000 men in Libya no longer serves any useful strategic purpose and will be withdrawn."

Statement

The Defence Ministry issued this statement after the publication of both reports: "No decision has been taken to withdraw the 10th Armoured Division from Libya."

"The Minister of Defence is at present in the course of reviewing British military commitments throughout the world and will no doubt examine the British commitment in Libya along with the rest."

A War Office spokesman declined comment on the Daily Mail report.

Britain's Libyan base came into prominence during the Suez operations when the Libyan Government refused to allow it to be used for any preparations for the Anglo-French intervention.

The Daily Mail also said that Mr Sandys has decided that a drastic reassessment must be made of the value of British garrisons overseas.

This "will be based on the assumption that most of them are too small to fight a war and too large to perform ceremonial and guard duties."

Second Big Cut

The Daily Mail report said the decision to quit is the second big cut in British commitments, following the move to withdraw 35,000 men from Germany.

Referring to a coming "radical review of other overseas bases" the Daily Mail asserted that bases such as Hongkong, where there are three British battalions, and Gibraltar, which has 3,000 troops, "are likely to have their forces severely cut." —China Mail Special.

Medicine Men's Association

Salisbury, Feb. 18.

AFRICAN medicine men and women gathered at a village in the Central African Federation to divulge their secrets to Rhodesia's first African doctor Dr Parrenyaywa—but he did not appear.

They did not waste their time, however, for they formed themselves into an African Herbalist Association.

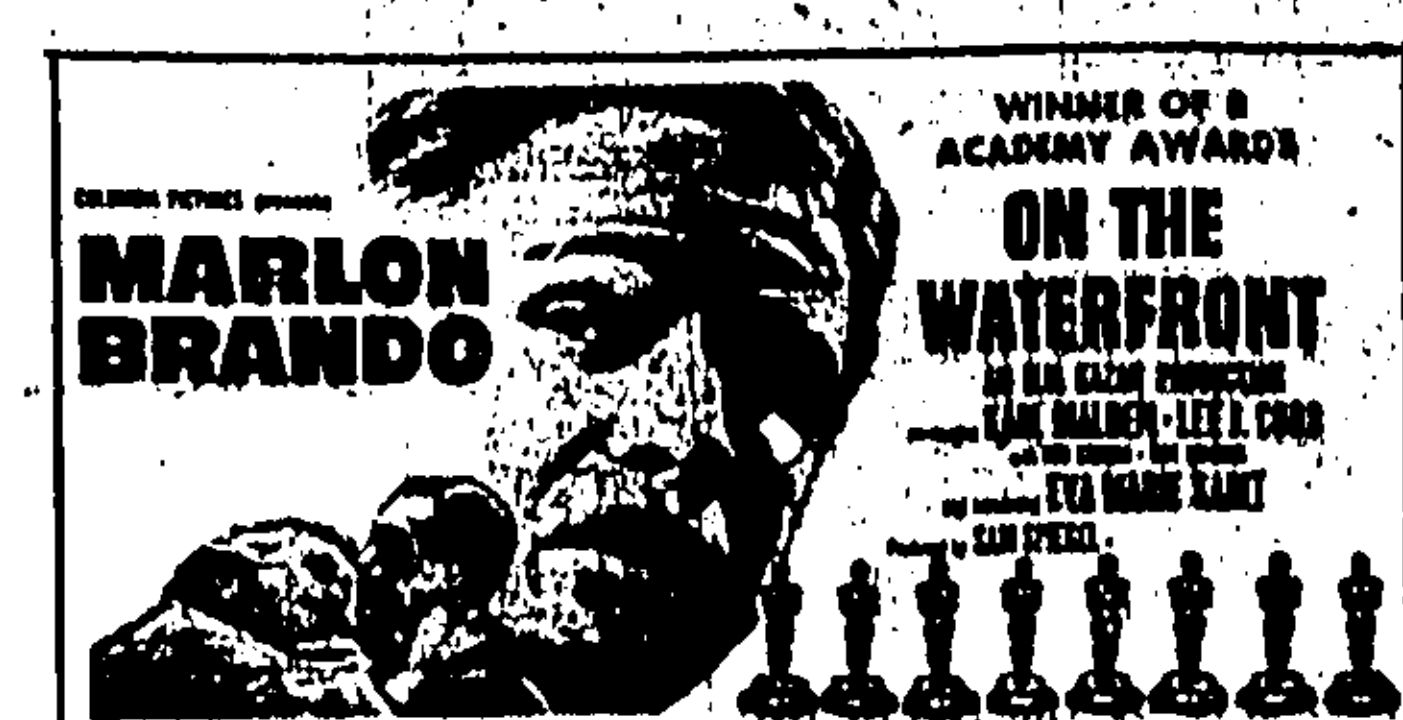
Mr K. Gombera, who was wearing a white dinner jacket, was elected president. "We want to prove," he said, "that we are herbalists, not witch-doctors. There are still

many witch-doctors who are bad people with poisonous medicines but we only use good roots."

In the background, a complicated rhythm came from stringed gourds while some members of the association danced, stamping their feet and twirling wands. With the arrival of Chief Mangwende, the herbalists threw themselves to their knees and uttered shrill screams of welcome. He was followed shortly after by Chief Chiola and Chief Nyandora, and the comparing of notes stopped. —France-Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

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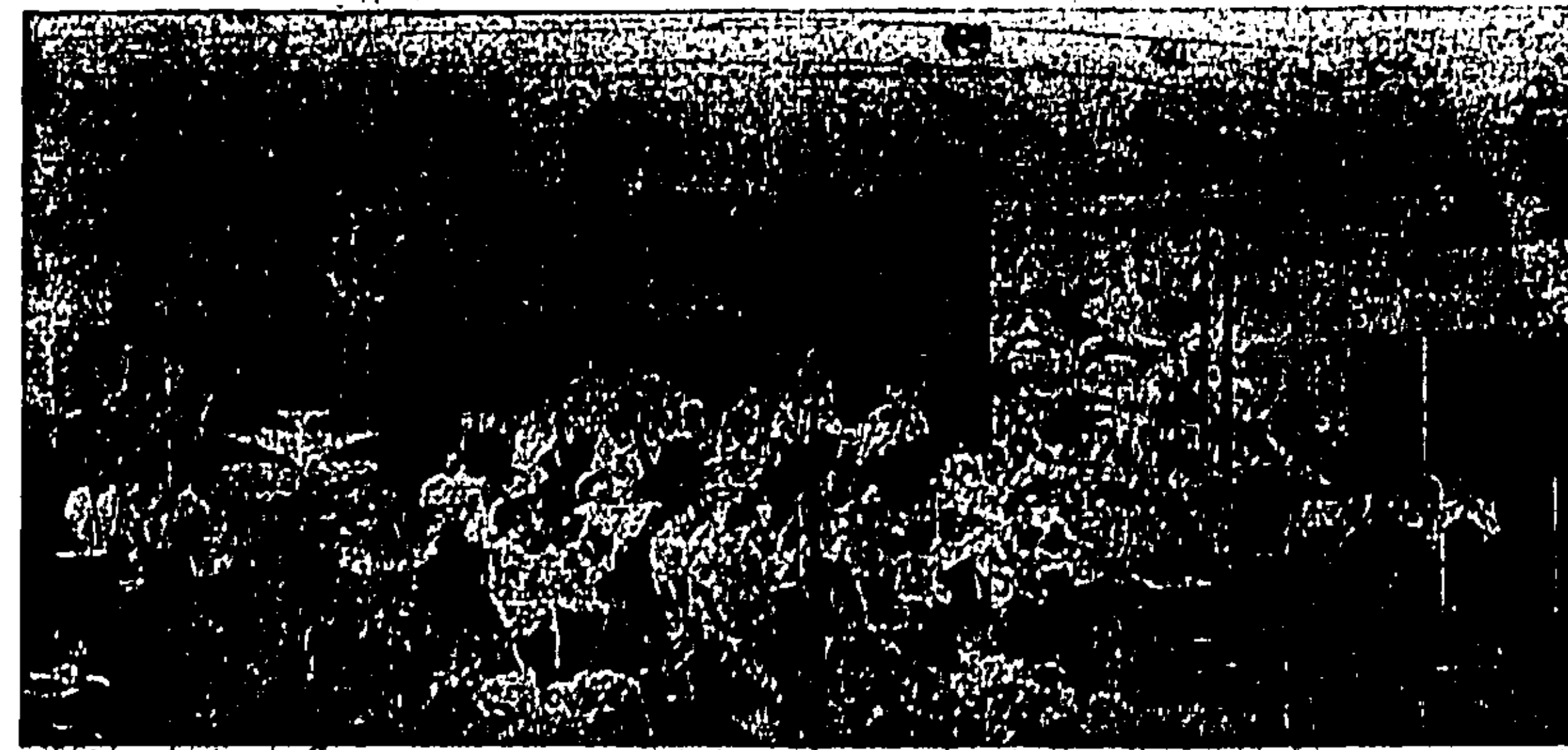
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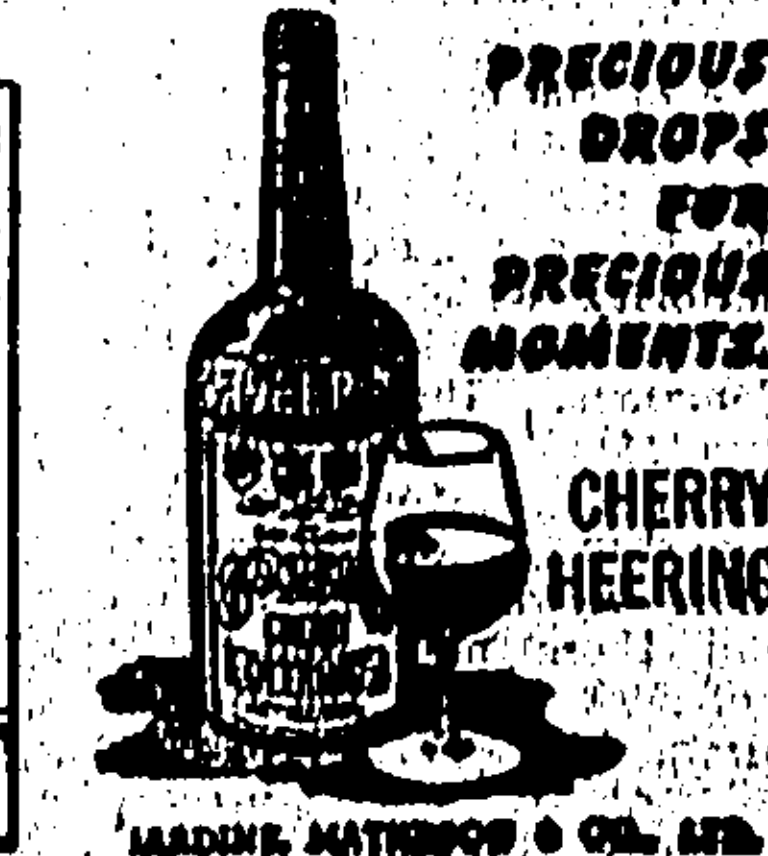
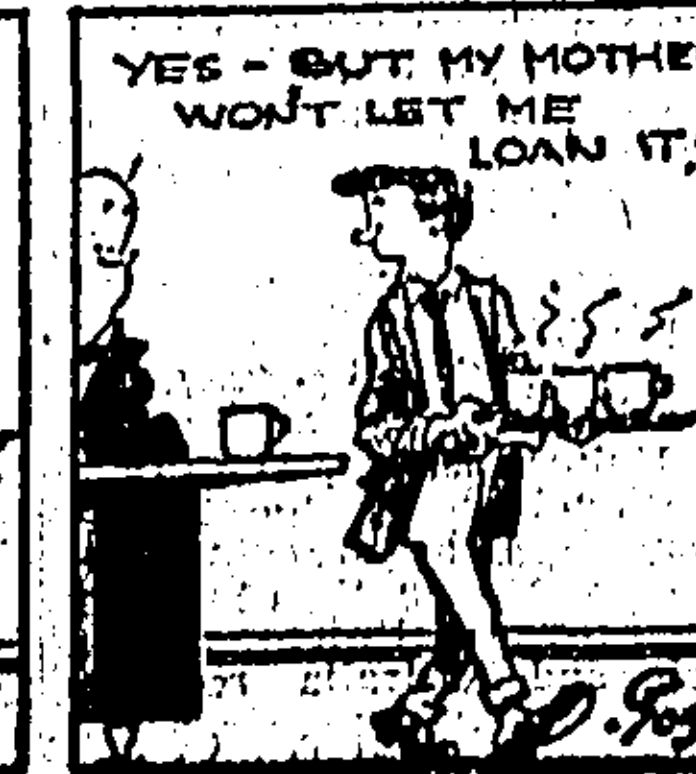
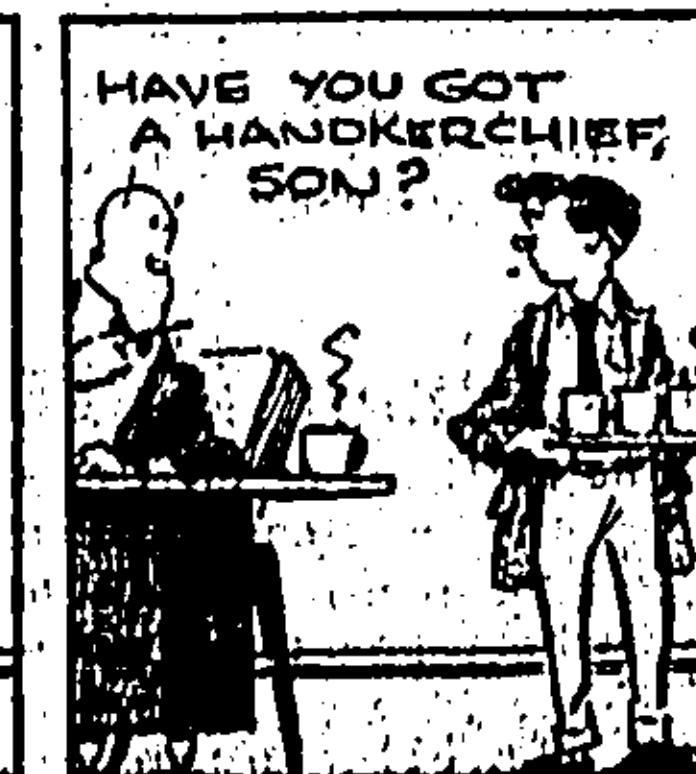
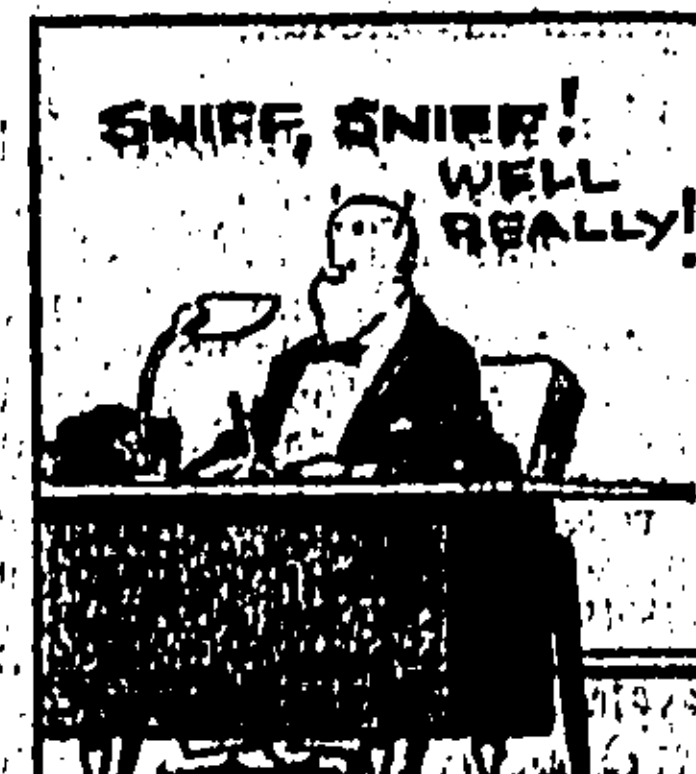
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POP

Concrete Programme Wanted In Mideast

AMERICAN SENATE DEMAND

Washington, Feb. 18. The Senate today debating President Eisenhower's Middle East doctrine with call from its spokesman on foreign affairs for "a constructive, consistent policy and concrete programme" for the troubled region.

Senator Theodore Green (Democrat), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, introduced the measure at the start of a floor debate which is expected to last several days and end in overwhelming approval.

He said that the resolution "makes clear that the United States wishes only to help in the Middle East and has no desire to exercise any control in the Middle East."

"This resolution is not a belligerent step; in fact, the joint committee (Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committee) has informed at our hearings that no change in the present disposition of United States forces is contemplated; there are no plans to station additional United States forces in the Middle East; and no major change in the levels of military assistance to countries in the Middle East is expected."

Resentment

Senator Green said there was for the time being understandable resentment against British and French influence in the area.

But, he said, "the United States had no intention of rushing to the Middle East to take the place of the British and French. We have no such ambition; we have no colonial pretensions or needs. If there is a vacuum in the Middle East it is our hope that the vacuum will be filled by the people of the area themselves."

He said there was a danger that despite clear statements of United States intentions in the resolution countries such as Syria, Egypt and Yemen might feel apprehensive "by virtue of the fact that they alone in the Middle East have accepted Communist arms and Communist technicians."

"These countries need not be apprehensive about this resolution. The resolution does not threaten any nation in the Middle East. On the contrary, it is intended to extend a helping hand. The only warning contained in the resolution is directed toward international communism," — Reuter.

WOMEN ONLY MOSQUE

Cairo, Feb. 18. A mosque for women only, the first of its kind in the history of the country, is to be built in Egypt. Minister for Religious Property Sheikh Ahmed Hassan el Bakhuri announced here today.

The Minister said it had been decided to grant a building site to the Union of Egyptian women on which the new mosque is to be erected.

The mosque will also include an auditorium, a library and a children's nursery. — France-Press.

Economic Partnership Plan For Asia

New Orleans, Feb. 18. The Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Masayuki Tani, today urged that Japan and the United States form an economic partnership for the development of the new nations of free Asia.

In a speech prepared for a luncheon meeting of the Mississippi Valley World Trade Conference, he said there were areas in which many of our plans may be developed to dovetail with each other.

"These possibilities, I believe, should be fully explored and concrete schemes be devised to enable our countries more fully to contribute to the needs and requirements of these (Asian) countries," Mr. Tani added.

He said that Japan, with the largest concentration of skilled manpower and technical knowledge in Asia and the largest pool of skilled manpower and managerial ability felt it had a "positive role and a substantial contribution" to make.

EXTENSION

He noted that Japan was extending economic co-operation to Burma and the Philippines as part of its second world war reparations payments.

An increasing number of Japanese engineers are giving technical advice and guidance, Mr. Tani added. Also an increasing number of Asian students and technicians are studying in Japan.

He said the development and expansion of new trade areas was vital to Japan. — Reuter.

Salvage Work At Jaguars



LABOUR'S MODEST GAINS IN 1956

Geneva, Feb. 18. The threat of inflation and rising prices together with an upward trend in strikes and industrial disputes marked the closing stages of 1956. Mr. David C. Morse, Director-General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), said here today.

POLAND AFTER LOAN

London, Feb. 18. Poland will seek a \$150 million loan from the United States in negotiations due to open in Washington later this week, diplomatic sources said today.

The loan is to help Poland finance large purchases in the United States of commodities which the regime of Wladyslaw Gomulka apparently can no longer obtain from Russia.

Polish negotiators are simultaneously seeking to buy British industrial goods, but efforts to obtain a \$100 million credit have met with little success so far.

Informal sources reported the Polish team which is to proceed to Washington tomorrow will above all want to buy considerable quantities of American cotton.

The Polish bid for cotton is believed to be in the neighbourhood of some 300,000 to 350,000 bales. Most of Poland's cotton has thus far come from Russia. Egypt and China have also supplied small quantities in the past.

The country is said to be suffering from a shortage of cotton supplies, and stocks have been whittled down.

300,000 BALES

The quantity of over 300,000 bales which Poland reportedly wishes to obtain from the US corresponds almost to the entire amount which she previously obtained from Russia.

At first sight it looks therefore as if Poland wanted to replace Russian with American supplies.

The loan which Poland is said to be seeking in the United States should, in Warsaw's expectation, run over some six years.

The sources said Poland might, if the mission proves successful, also consider the return to the World Bank from which she withdrew in 1955.

Behind such a decision would be Poland's hope for a loan from the Bank for development projects.

Meanwhile Polish negotiators have been looking around in Britain for industrial and agricultural supplies.

They were understood to be interested in electrical equipment, supplies for the steel industry, railway lines and a variety of tractors and agricultural machinery. — United Press.

Employees of the Jaguar car company in Coventry are busy carrying out salvage work after the fire which destroyed part of the plant last week. Damage has been estimated at several millions of pounds. Picture shows a general view of the ruined assembly line, and the collapsing roof. — Express Photo.

More Rebels Killed In Algeria

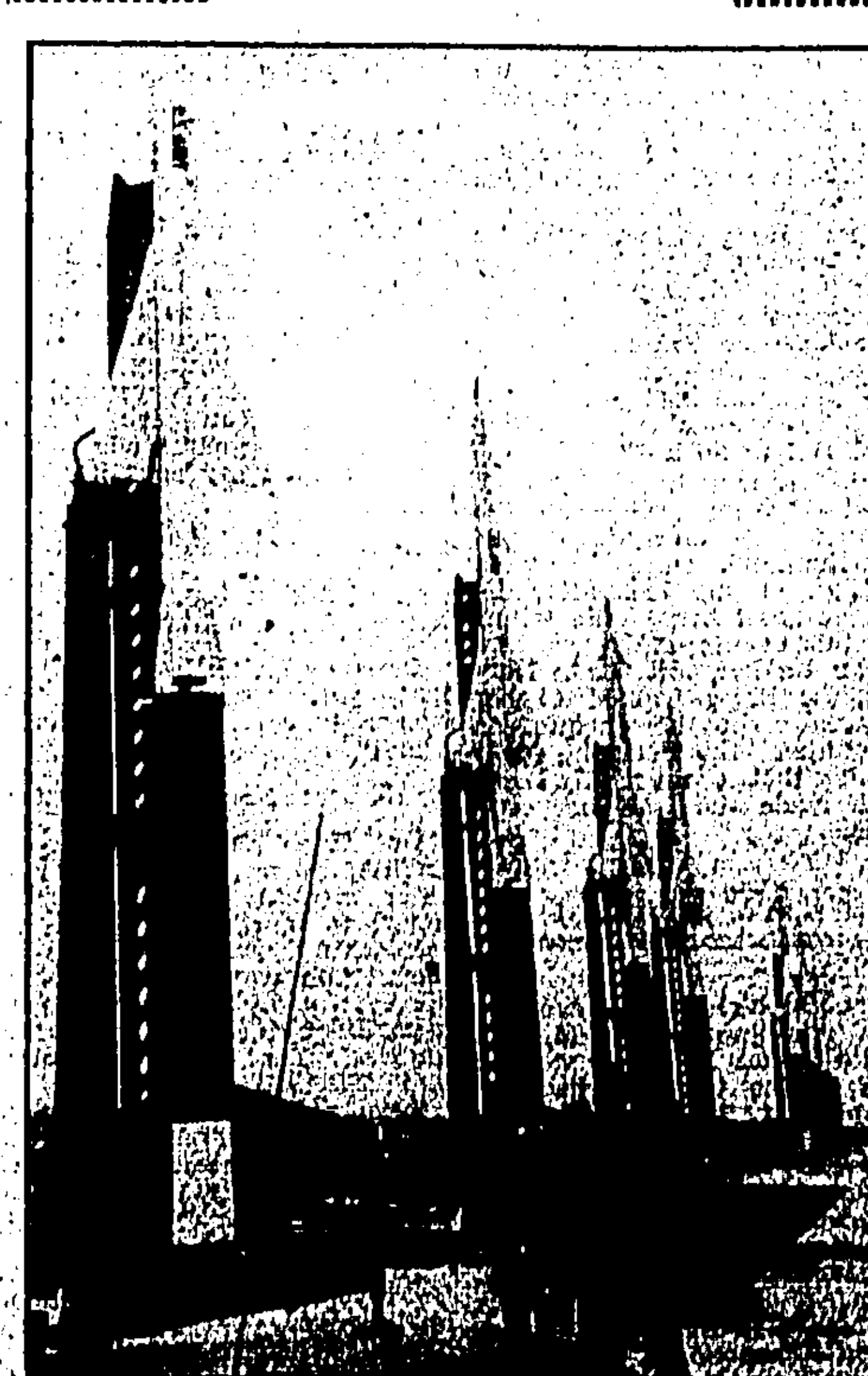
Algiers, Feb. 18. A total of 68 rebels were killed and four taken prisoner in several operations launched by French security forces in the Kabylia region near Algiers, a military source in Tizi Ouzou announced today.

The source said the most important rebel losses were suffered when 44 rebels were killed in an operation launched by an Alpine mountain unit near Ogdal.

Altogether 19 terrorists were arrested during the operations. Meanwhile, it was announced here that the police have arrested a notorious terrorist known as "Amar Balliche" near Algiers. He was said to have taken part in several armed attacks.

The French High Command announced here today that a considerable number of rebels had been killed in five different engagements in the Algiers region. A quantity of arms and ammunition captured and 10 suspects arrested. — France-Press.

Fact: Not Fiction



Like a scene from a science-fiction film, guided missiles are raised from underground chambers and pointed towards the sky for launching. The missiles, which have missed 100 per cent accuracy within a 25-mile radius, are at an American defence base on Grand Island, New York State. All are kept ready for action. — Reuters.

EDER DAM PROBE

Hamel, Feb. 18. Experts are testing the Eder Dam near here to see whether it is still suffering from damage inflicted by the Dam Busters of the Royal Air Force in 1945.

The dam was repaired during the war at the point where British aerial torpedoes breached it to release a torrent which flooded the valley below and killed several hundred people.

Fourteen years later authorities have decided that another check is necessary and engineers are boring four 250 foot holes in the dam to see whether it is still sound and watertight. — China Mail Special.

NEW TYPE EJECTION SEAT

Baltimore, Feb. 18. A new ejection seat that will permit pilots to bail out of planes travelling at more than 1,500 miles an hour will soon be made available to the Air Force, the Air Research and Development Command announced today.

The seat, described as a "flying boat", is being developed by the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in Santa Monica, California. It was described as having side fins, stubby wings and a waft-shaped steel windshield to break the force of the slipstream.

A pilot bailing out need only pull a so-called D-ring mounted in the cockpit. This, in turn, ignites a cartridge with a one-second delay. Within that second everything happens automatically. A knee guard clamps the pilot's legs into position, support webbing envelops his arms, metal clamps pull the feet together and supports clamp the head to prevent neck injury.

Finally, when the cartridge explodes, the pilot is ejected in his new protective armour, which includes a self-packed parachute that opens when the air speed drops below 300 miles an hour. — United Press.

FRANCE STAGES UN WALKOUT

New York, Feb. 18. France today staged a brief walkout from the United Nations General Assembly's Trusteeship Committee in protest against a hearing granted to a representative of the Union de Populations du Cameroun.

Before hearing the petitioner, the French delegate, M. Robert Barges, informed the committee that France was absconding itself from this part of the debate.

He declared that the Union de Populations du Cameroun, a political organisation in the French-administered trust territory of the French Cameroons in West Africa, had been dissolved by authorities "owing to its subversive activities."

In his address to the committee, the petitioner, Mr. Winston Ntuzamah, advocated the unification of the British and French Cameroons and sharply criticised a report made by a visiting UN mission in 1955. He alleged that the mission had "validated the French government policy of violence and massacre."

After the petitioner finished, Mr. Max Dorsville, of Haiti, chairman of the mission, protested against the "biased" remarks made by Mr. Ntuzamah. M. Barges returned to the committee after it finished questioning Mr. Ntuzamah. — Reuter.

Queen's Chaplain In Singapore

Singapore, Feb. 18. The Queen's Chaplain, Rev. Canon V.J. Pike, flew into Singapore from Hongkong tonight on a three weeks' tour of many jails and churches in the Far East.

Canon Pike, also Chaplain to the Forces, will visit troops in jungle camps on active operations against communist terrorists in Malaya.

On March 2 he will dedicate a war memorial at Kranji Cemetery, Singapore, which honours Commonwealth soldiers and airmen who died in World War II and have no known graves.

He is due to fly to Britain on March 4. — Reuter.

NATIONALISTS UPSET OVER SPRATLYS

Manila, Feb. 18. The Nationalist Chinese Embassy here said today it was "amazed" at Philippine Vice-President and Foreign Affairs Secretary Carlos Garcia's statement that the controversial Spratly Islands (also known as Nansha) were open to exploitation by any foreign power.

The ownership of Nansha Islands is being disputed by the claimants, a Manila lawyer Mr. Tomas Cloma, the Government of Nationalist China, Communist China, France and South Vietnam.

The Nationalist Chinese Embassy in a press release today said the "Nansha Island group have been and is considered a part of the integral territory of the Republic of China."

Amazed

Mr. Garcia in an official letter dated February 8 answering Cloma's query said the Philippine Foreign Affairs Department was of the opinion that a group of numerous corals and reefs known as the Spratlys were "uninhabited and unexplored" and therefore open to exploitation by anyone.

A press release today said "the Chinese Embassy is amazed at the contents" of Mr. Garcia's letter.

said Mr. Garcia's opinion, if correct, would make hundreds of small islands in the Philippine archipelago remaining uninhabited and unexplored open to exploitation by any foreign power.

The Embassy said "the Nationalist Chinese Government cannot recognise any foreign claim over the islands group and shall deem any such claim as an infringement upon Chinese territorial rights." — Reuter.

PROFESSOR DIES

Princeton, Feb. 18. Dr. Henry Norris Russell, Professor of Astronomy emeritus at Princeton University and considered by colleagues as the greatest living astronomer, died in Princeton Hospital today after a long illness. He was 79.

Dr. Russell was known internationally for his work in the field of astrophysics and spectroscopy. — United Press.

NURSING HOME FIRE

Braintree, Mass., Feb. 18. Fire broke out in a three-story nursing home today but was quickly confined to the first floor.

About 44 patients of Braintree Manor Nursing Home were herded into other rooms when flames broke out. No one was injured, according to officials.

Cause of the blaze was not determined.

In Warrenton, Missouri, the State moved quickly today to find the cause of a flash fire that turned a peaceful Sunday at the Katie Jane Memorial Home into a holocaust that took 71 lives.

But highway patrol officers, after questioning 20 witnesses at the scene, reported: "As of now we don't know the exact cause of the fire."

Patrol Captain C.R. Oliver said the cause could have been "mechanical, accidental or arson."

The forty-third body was removed late today from the basement of what was once an old, three-story brick building and taken to the makeshift morgue in an abandoned building across the street. All of the dead were plunged into the basement when the inferno caused floors and walls to collapse.

GROUND FLOOR

Captain Oliver said it had been determined that the fire started on the ground floor of an annex to the main dormitory and spread rapidly due to the age and construction of the building.

Dr. F. H. Knigge, Warren County Coroner, said he did not believe the dead would exceed the official list of 71 missing persons. None of the bodies have been identified and Dr. Knigge said he doubted inquiry would be because the intense heat left little more than ashes.

Less than 24 hours after the fire, the Governor, Mr. James Blair Jr., ordered several State agencies to "make investigations into the fire and the operation of the nursing home." — United Press.

Gene Kelly's Wife In Las Vegas

Las Vegas, Feb. 18. Actress Betsy Blair arrived here today to establish residence, preliminary to filing suit for divorce from the dancing star, Gene Kelly.

Kelly and Miss Blair were reported to have separated officially last September but their work had kept them apart for many years while Kelly was making pictures in Europe.

Miss Blair, who had been inactive as an actress following her marriage to Kelly, returned to the screen two years ago in the hit film "Marty," playing the role of a schoolteacher.

The Kellys were married in Philadelphia on September 22, 1941. They have a daughter, Kerry, 17. Kelly currently is working in Hollywood in "Les Girls." — United Press.

British Ambassador To Vietnam

London, Feb. 18. Roderick Parkes, British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, has been named British Ambassador to South Vietnam, the Foreign Office announced today.

It is to succeed Sir Hugh Stephenson, who was appointed British Consul-General in New York, the Foreign Office said. Parkes was named Ambassador to Saudi Arabia in October, 1955. He left the country last November when "Saudi Arabia broke off diplomatic relations with Britain" in protest against the British intervention in Egypt. — France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
3 Made obnoxious (8).
7 Attain (5).
8 Bits and pieces (8).
10 Safe (6).
12 Table support (7).
15 On the sheltered side (4).
17 Gem (7).
18 Poison (7).
20 Furry member shall we say? (4).
21 Inconsistent (7).
22 Oil-well (6).
23 Area (5).
25 Greek letter (5).
26 Intensifies (8).
- DOWN
1 Jack the Nipper (5).
2 Ludicrous comedy (5).
3 Brief (5).
4 Objects (4).
5 Rope drive (6).
6 Spitted (5).
9 Expunge (6).
11 Build (6).
12 Employing (6).
14 Come out (8).
15 Dollars (5).
16 Name (5).
18 Desire earnestly (5).
19 Dollars (5).
22 Corrode (5).
23 Numerical (5).
24 Colour (5).
25 Farm building (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Spills, 7 Emits, 9 About, 10 (7) Rigid, 11 Used, 13 Remarkable, 15 Arid, 16 Tris, 18 Resilience, 22 Ebon, 24 Enter, 25 Levels, 26 Ease, 27 Permit. Down: 2 Frolic, 3 Later, 4 Spread, 5 Regulate, 6 Wide, 8 Miser, 12 Dodge, 15 Balbe, 14 Assented, 17 Irons, 18 Mirror, 20 Idle, 21 Novel, 23 Bear.

THE RETURN OF DR. KANG

It was natural that the pupil in trouble should turn to the master for help, but regrettable that she should make the mistake of underestimating Dr Kang.

DR KANG stood at the end of the queue. In his hand was a copy of *Love My Murderer* by Greta Norwalk. At the other end of the queue, sitting at a small table signing copies of her book, was the famous Greta Norwalk.

She was an attractive slightly untidy woman of about 30, fair-haired, a pleasant smile and with a fluttery movement of her hands that was elegant and bird-like. It was odd, thought Dr Kang, how a woman who looked so untidy should have such a keen, analytical mind.

Her latest book was a masterpiece of crime fiction, and in the lecture she had just given she had shown a brilliant, diamond-clear approach to the technicalities of her craft. However, Dr Kang told himself, the best gifts were often badly wrapped.

He moved up patiently, beaming at nothing in particular through his thick-lensed spectacles, a plump, foreign figure with a Buddha-like face and an air of being remote from this world. Behind him people wandered around the book department of this great multiple store and distinctly he could hear the whine and gasp of the great elevators.

When at last he stood before the table he laid the book down, open at the fly-leaf for Greta Norwalk to sign. For a moment the woman glanced up at him. The smile deepened about her lips and she wrote quickly, blotting her writing and handing the book back. Scrawled across the fly-leaf were these words:

For Dr Kang, from the apprentice to the master.

Greta Norwalk.

Dr Kang smiled, gave a little bow, and said: "You are kind but remember that a good apprentice is a master's joy, and you have given me much pleasure."

CALL FOR HELP

That evening as Dr Kang sat in his hotel room a page-boy brought up a letter for him which had been sent by special messenger. It was from Greta Norwalk and the typescript read:

After seeing you today I should have liked to call round this evening and talk to you on a matter of great importance to me, but previous engagements prevent

LADY IN DISTRESS

by VICTOR CANNING

this. Would you be kind enough to call at my flat tomorrow morning? I am desperately in need of your help.

At the head of the sheet was the address of her flat in Hampstead. Dr Kang stared at it for some time, then put it away in his pocket.

The next morning before 10 o'clock Dr Kang went up to Greta Norwalk's flat. It was on the garden level of a large house overlooking Hampstead Heath. It was a fine, sunny autumn morning and the grass gleamed with a lacing of dew-hung spiders' webs.

Greta Norwalk opened the door to him and led him into a littered study at the back of the house, overlooking the garden. The window was open and a great shaft of sunlight emphasised the disordered state of the room.

The top of the desk was dusty, and a spider had built a web across the open back of a chair. Seeing Dr Kang's eyes go round the place Greta Norwalk said, "I must apologise for the untidiness. The woman who looks after me is away for a week, and

I am the world's unluckiest woman."

She picked some old newspapers off a chair and motioned Dr Kang to sit down.

"You need my help in a personal or a professional matter?" asked Dr Kang.

"Personal, Dr Kang."

"You know of course that I do not work for the love of it—"

"What's the matter?" she said at last.

Dr Kang tapped the box which was on his knees. "This. You are a good writer and it is a delight to read your books. But between the imagination and the deed there is a great gap. This, perhaps after tonight, will have been left. You referred to me as master and you as apprentice."

"Let me give you the golden rule of all reception and remember it always in your writings and in your acts. It is easy to tie a knot with your tongue that your hands can never undo."

"Thank you. But what does all this mean?"

"Mind you," said Dr Kang, "I do not tell you this advice free. You have already paid £1,000 for it. You see, my dear lady, I might have believed your story of blackmail, except

KEPT THE BOX

A few minutes later Dr Kang was walking slowly back across the Heath to Greta Norwalk's flat. She let him in and they went together into the study.

"You've got the letters?" she asked anxiously.

Dr Kang nodded, but he did not pass over the box.

Instead he settled into his chair and lit a cigarette and then looked at Greta Norwalk in silence for a while. His gaze made her uncomfortable.

"What's the matter?" she said at last.

Dr Kang tapped the box which was on his knees. "This. You are a good writer and it is a delight to read your books. But between the imagination and the deed there is a great gap. This, perhaps after tonight, will have been left. You referred to me as master and you as apprentice."

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"I paid you to bring me the letters, let me have them!"

"While he was away," said Dr Kang helpfully, "you formed an attachment, which you now regret. You wrote letters to the man and now he intends to... Who is he?"

Greta Norwalk turned back to him. "He's an actor, Michael Cadille, and he lives in a block of flats on the other side of the Heath. I never dreamt he could be so despicable." She waved her hand towards the telephone on the desk. "He was on the telephone again a few minutes before you came in... He wants an enormous sum for the letters, and I know once he gets the money it won't be the end. He'll go on bleeding me."

"So you decided that the best way was to steal the letter from him?"

"Yes. He goes to the theatre every evening. I still have a key to his flat which you could have. He keeps the letters in a small black Japanese box in his safe. As for the safe—for a moment the smile came back—"It is one thing to write about cracking safes. But to do it—"

"Few women have the art," smiled Dr Kang. "Give me the key to the flat and your cheque for a thousand pounds," he went on, "and I will look after the safe. I shall bring the letters here this evening."

After he had left Greta Norwalk, Dr Kang walked to her bank and cashed her cheque. As he counted the notes he was thinking that it was a silly sheep which made the wolf her confessor.

FLAT EMPTY

At eight o'clock that evening, when he knew that Michael Cadille would be safely on the stage of the theatre where he was playing, Dr Kang went to his flat. He rang the bell, waited, and when there was no reply, let himself in.

He wore gloves and he took his time. It was an expensive, well-furnished flat and had all the marks of a bachelor quarters in which a great deal of entertaining was done.

There were three or four signed photographs of women about the place, including one of Greta Norwalk. The safe—al had learned this from Greta—was behind a picture in the bedroom.

WRITING CLUE

"And then when I opened the safe and glanced at the letters in this box. No, no, I did not read them. The address on the envelope was enough. I saw at once that the writing was not yours. A woman's writing, not yours. You gave me an example of yours when you kindly signed my book."

Greta Norwalk stood up, her face dark with anger.

"I paid you to bring me the letters. Let me have them!"

Dr Kang shook his head. "So that you can ruin another woman to soothe your wounded pride?"

"What are you talking about—"

Dr Kang smiled. "Michael Cadille threw you over for another woman. These are her letters to him. You hated her for taking your place. With them you would have ruined her... Not by blackmail, perhaps, but by exposing her to her husband. Yes, I have a feeling that Michael Cadille has a weakness for married women."

Dr Kang stood up. "I shall destroy these letters, and leave you, dear lady, a thousand pounds the wiser."

"I shall stop the cheque," he said. "I shall stop the cheque. Goodbye, dear lady." His hand on the door, Dr Kang added: "Stick to fiction. You do that well. Remember it is better to ride an ass than you can manage, than a horse which will throw you."

Thursday: FIND MY SON



ARRIVAL OF THE PRODIGALS

World Copyright by arrangement with the Manchester Guardian

James Thurber

WITH MAN HE HAS SYMPATHY, RESPECT HE RESERVES FOR DOGS

By LES ARMOUR

THURBER stands 6 feet one and one half inches tall in his bare feet (a thing he avoids as much as possible), has trouble keeping his hair out of his eyes, and a moustache which looks like a once well-kept lawn gone to seed.

He regards life with the deadly serious, baleful eye characteristic of great humorists.

But Thurber is a rare thing among humorists. His humour reflects himself. He really does see himself as a baffled, bewildered man, buffeted by the cosmos and hopelessly outwitted by his own gadgets.

For himself and his fellow man Thurber has sympathy. Respect he reserves for dogs. One of his cartoons shows two dogs calling one another names. One is snarling at the other: "You low down human being, you!"

He also suspects, from time to time, that the animals have the upper hand. The fierce, beely woman enquiring of the Hippopotamus: "What have you done with Doctor Milms?" is clearly no match for the hippo who regards her with a look of amused disdain.

Women and Dogs

In the Thurber world there is no salvation and men are destined to be ever bested by women and women by dogs. Thurber appears to get out of bed that the dogs may have taken every morning full of the fear of a woman.

For this reason he does not describe himself a dog lover. "A dog lover," he says pointedly, "is to me a dog who loves another dog."

James Grover Thurber was born on December 8, 1894, in Ohio and first clashed squarely with the world at Ohio State University. Apparently beaten, he went from Ohio to Paris where he became a cipher clerk in the American embassy.

It was there among the squiggles and the codes of diplomacy that the madness of man first seems to have struck him.

In 1920, he came home to become a reporter on the Columbus Dispatch where, he reports, he learned to write but did not impress his employers as a prospective Joseph Pulitzer.

As a matter of fact, despite his own tales, he seems to have been a first-class reporter and he worked successively for the *Paris*, *Chicago Tribune* and the *New York Evening Post*.

Not Impressed

He left the Post and reporting in 1927 to join the staff of *Time* magazine, and sharp-tongued New Yorker.

At the New Yorker he began to draw. But *Time* was not impressed. Had he some lonely men, sorry for himself, like some, is he bored by people or

were roughs on which the artists might get to work.

Thurber persisted. But *Time* never did come around to seeing that Thurber's queer equiggles were curiously at its greatest. Years later he remarked: "They are just a bad. The English have made them into a bad."

To suggest that the English had made them into a bad was far worse, from Ross's point of view, than to suggest that they were a bad. Ross did not hold a very high opinion of English humour.

It was not, indeed, until Thurber's first book (written with E. B. White) became a best-seller and famed for its drawing that Ross allowed them in *The New Yorker*.

Sex Revolution

The book, entitled "Is Sex Necessary?" dealt with such pressing questions as "What should children tell their parents?" and exhaustively with the Sexual Revolution. (Thurber explained that this started with the discovery by men that they were not attractive, as such, to women. Seeking to tempt women by acquiring new mental qualities man at last became so intelligent that he realised the whole business was comical. Alas, by the time this stage had been reached, as every devotee of the Thurber cartoon knows full well, woman had acquired complete mastery of man.)

E. B. White, Thurber's co-author, was the acknowledged master of the humorist's art. From him, Thurber admits, he learnt his trade.

But it was Thurber himself, who developed the apparently aimless, wandering prose which choked the customers with laughter. Actually the wandering and the seeming aimlessness are deceptive. Thurber, like the ciphers he once decodes, is a master of word economy. His "Fables for Our Time" seem to drift happily over the surface of life until, suddenly, a few words sum up an encyclopedia in a sentence—and disappear in a puff of laughter.

Private Miracle

Who can resist the tale of the man who saw a unicorn in his garden—and landed his wife in the booby hatch? The hero is typical Thurber Man, mild-mannered, trusting, concerned to find out what unicorns eat. His wife promptly phones for the police and, the stock Thurber villain, the psychiatrist, but the hero merely smiles tolerantly when the law arrives and off goes the wife. The moral, of course, is not a moralist's moral, but "Never count your boobies until they're hatched."

Humour made Thurber rich and famous and enabled him, like his heroes, to wander the earth in search of whatever private miracle it is he looks for.

Paris is his favourite haunt and, next to Paris, London is his home. No one knows quite what he does in these places. He is not a gregarious man. Even when he is surrounded by people—as he usually is—he appears to be a lonely man.

He is not, like many lonely men, sorry for himself, like some, is he bored by people or



Time, however, has made him increasingly concerned with social problems.

As far back as 1941, he wrote a hilarious, but cutting play called "The Male Animal" in which he attacked the encroachments on academic freedom in American universities—and managed to make his point while having glorious fun with the national college sports, American football.

And beneath the smooth surface of his new collection of fables—just published in book form—he has returned to political problems.

Thurber's Man may be baffled, but there is light left in him yet.

And Thurber, commando-like, continues to throw his bombs from the most unexpected angles....

New High-Speed Machine To Track Satellites

As They Circle Earth At 18,000 MPH

A NEW high-speed computing machine, for use in tracking "satellites" travelling at 18,000 m.p.h. above the earth during the International Geophysical Year, which begins in July, has been designed by American scientists.

The machine can predict the orbit of a "satellite" within seconds of receiving complicated sets of figures. It will be installed in Washington.

Information from the "satellite"—200 or more miles above the Earth—will be radioed back by a transmitter weighing 13 ounces. Radio tracking stations will pass on the data to Washington. The computer's "answers" will be reported back to the stations immediately.

Testing Nearly Complete

Dr Paul Horget, Professor of Astronomy at Cincinnati University, will head the staff at the computer centre.

Work on testing the 72-ft-long Vanguard rockets, to send ten of these "satellites" on their orbits, is nearly complete. The rockets—built to carry the 21lb metal "satellites" in a nose locker—are built in three parts. After each boost, the spent part disintegrates and falls to earth. Finally the "satellite" is left to begin its orbit outside the pull of gravity.

Scientists expect that many unknown facts about the atmosphere, radiation, cosmic rays and meteorology will be learned from readings given by the satellites' instruments. —London Express Service.

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SUNDAY'S HKAAA OPEN

At First Reflection A Poor Meeting, But Was It Poor?

By "RECORDER"

The Third HKAAA Open Meeting of the current season at Caroline Hill Stadium on Sunday morning attracted the largest entry of the season. There was a surprisingly large number of starters. Conditions were extremely poor with strong gusts of wind from every conceivable direction and performances generally looked poor.

For example, heat times in the 100 Metres Dash included an 11.5 for Tsui Kam-fai and an 11.8 for Capt. Gunn. With a strong wind against them in the final they finished one-two in 12.0 and 12.4 seconds.

It is extremely difficult to evaluate Sunday's sprint performances as little is known of what the exact wind velocity was at any time. But one thing seems certain and that is that the general standard was well below that of the last couple of years.

Last year, for instance, Capt. Gunn of 6 COD, though a keen and fairly good athlete, would not have stood any chance whatever of reaching the final of either the 100 Metres, 200 Metres or 400 Metres.

On Sunday he finished second in the 100, third in the 200 and second in the 400. A grand performance, indeed, when one takes into account the fact that he was nearly twice the age of any of the other finalists in all three events.

True enough, most of the Colony's best sprinters and quarter-milers were not taking part. But there were some who, on paper, should have edged Capt. Gunn out of his three medals but were obviously sadly short of training.

I will go further to say that of those who did not take part just about all are sadly short of training and it will not be at all easy to edge Capt. Gunn, providing he keeps his own training up till the end of March, out of place medals in at least two of these three events. Which is a sad reflection on current Colony standards.

THIS WAS GOOD

Best of Captain Gunn's performances was his 56.0 seconds in second place to Mao Ho-chop in the 400 Metres final. On a slow track and in wickedly windy weather this was a good time. On a conservative estimate conditions slowed down the field by at least two seconds and it would not surprise me to see the Colony Championship this year going to the most ancient winner in history. Thirty-five is, of course, not such a grand old age, but it is certainly elderly for a sprinter.

The Ladies' 100 Metres final produced a surprise winner in Ng Shuet-kwai in a good 13.7 seconds, though I do not know whether the wind was with or against her. Shuet-kwai thus established herself as a very strong contender for the award of the Lady Howe Cup as currently the Colony's best female athlete. The award, of course, will not be made on the strength of performance alone.

The Ladies' 200 Metres final was a very close race and the

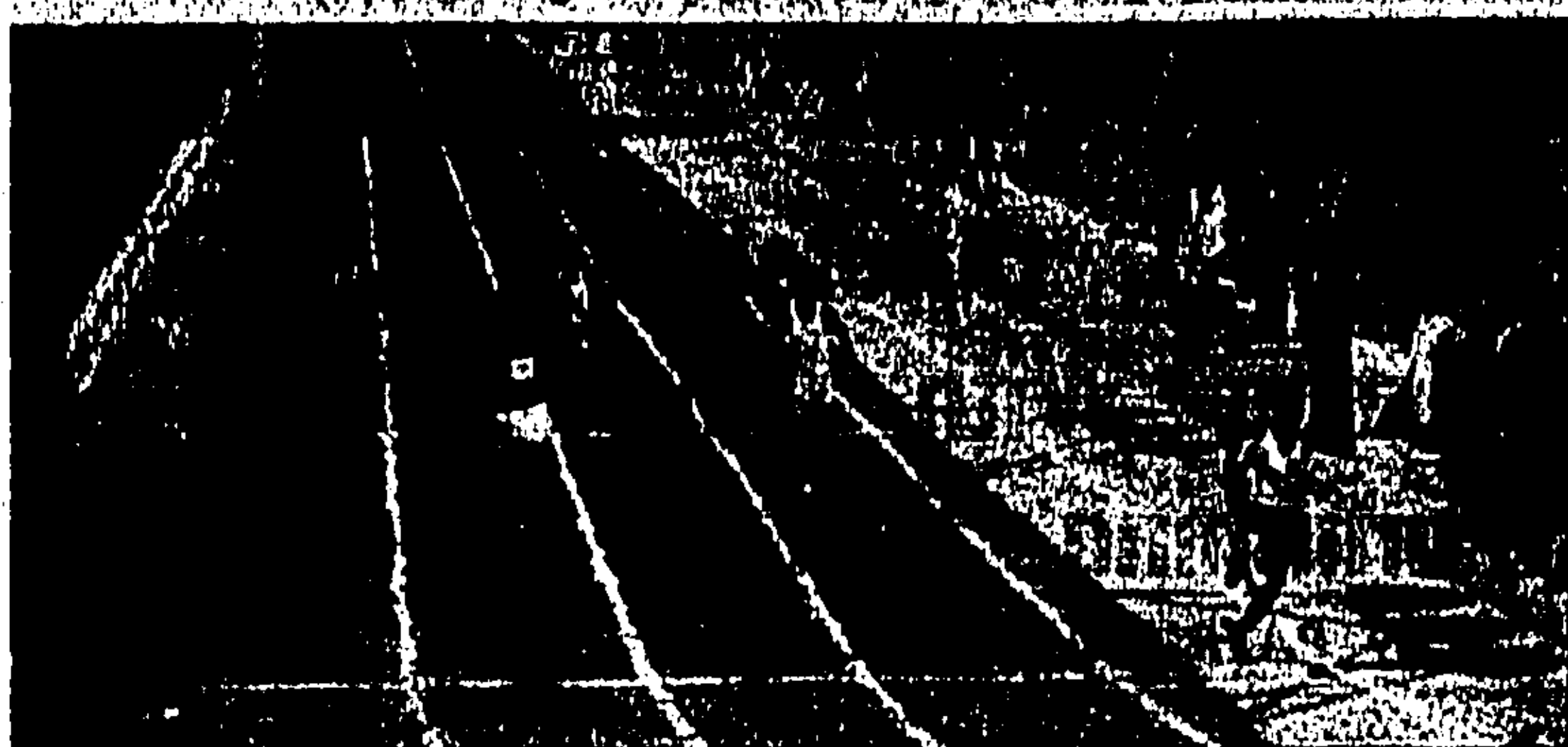
P.I. Champion To Meet Tested Campaigner

Stockton, Calif., Feb. 18. Steve Tony, welterweight Champion of the Philippines, resumes his American campaign here tomorrow night when he meets veteran Freddie (Babe) Herman in a ten-round bout at the auditorium.

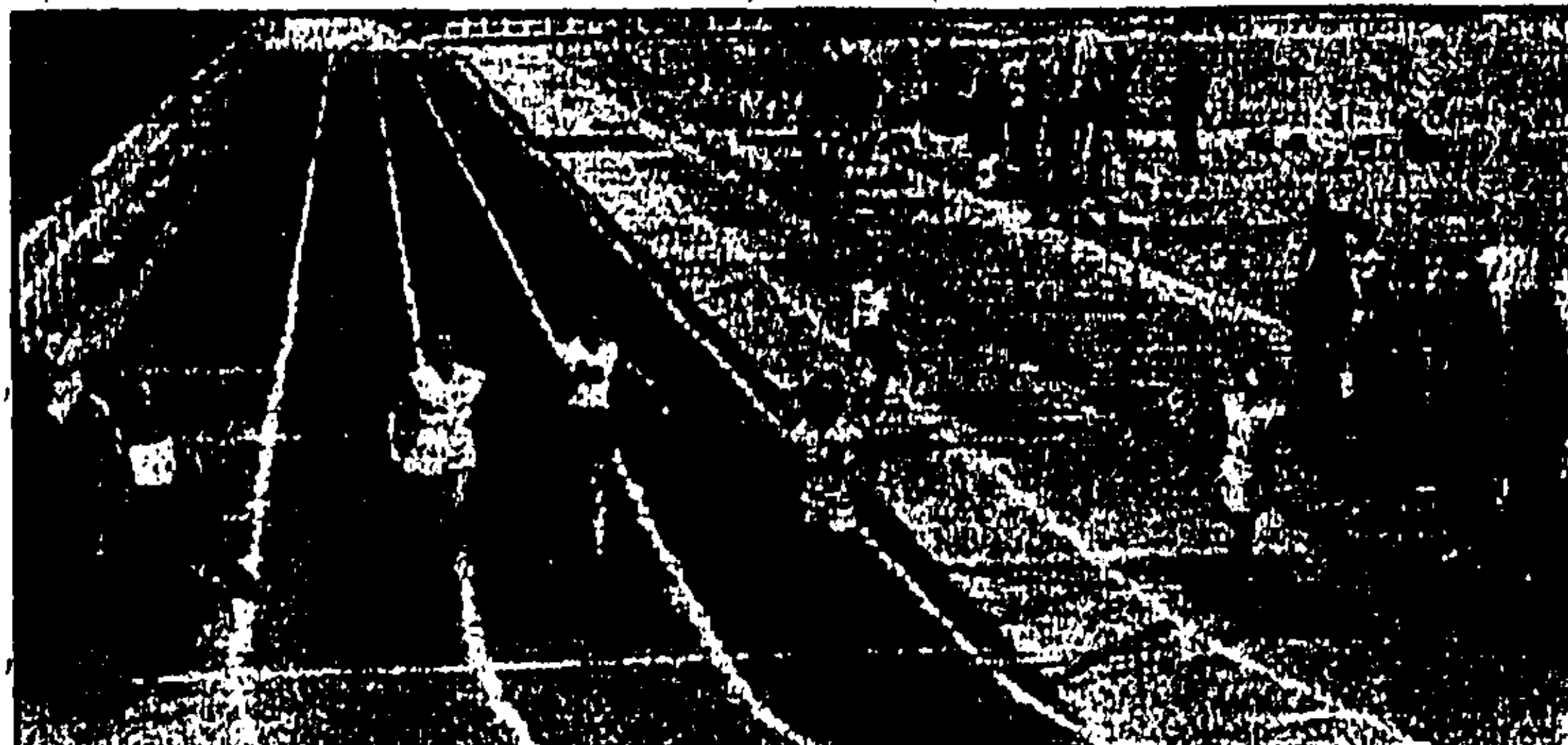
Tony, who defeated Star Tony to win the Philippine crown, has been beaten twice in 21 bouts. He faces a tested campaigner in Herman, who once held the former World Lightweight Champion Jimmy Carter to a draw, and has fought such other names as Ludwig Lightburn, Cleo Andrade and Joey Hopes.

Both fighters own good right-hand punches. Betting is even.—United Press.

TWO OF SUNDAY'S FINALS



The finish of the Men's 200 Metres Dash final at Caroline Hill at the HKAAA Open Meeting on Sunday. Tsui Kam-fai (extreme right) is an easy winner with Gnr. Hardhill (173 Loc. Hy., RA) second and Capt. Gunn (6COD) third.



The Ladies' 200 Metres Dash was a much closer affair. Left to right are Jean Todd (KGVs), third; Julia Tingay (HKAAC), fourth; Ho May-see (SCAA), first; Chung Pui-heung (SCAA), fifth and Chung Po-ling (SCAA), second.

ANOTHER RITA HALL?

King George V School's Jean Todd, who edged Julia out of third place, is a most promising newcomer and reminds me very much of Rita Hall. It shouldn't take her more than a season to reign supreme in this Colony in at least one event and that is the 200 Metres.

Libby Shekary ran in the 100 Metres, was left badly at the start and finished not a bad fourth in the circumstances. Though very much off form on Sunday, she is far from "finished". Though, with only two scoring jumps out of six, she finished fourth in the Long Jump, she is still probably the Colony's best in this event, even allowing for the current good opposition in this event.

One Colony record should have gone on Sunday. I believe that either Pang Chung or Lau Din-ye would have cleared 5 feet 11 1/4 inches in the High Jump. Conditions like that are not easy on the nerves, let alone on the body which gets blown cold.

In going over 5 feet 7 1/4 inches Pang Chung was cleared by at least four inches. Both cleared 5'10" the lower height more than once when the bar was at 5'11 1/4. This new Colony Record now awaits only the first favourable circumstances.

OLD MEN'S DAY

The field events produced little else of interest except for a surprising 170-foot Javelin Throw by South China veteran Chan Lap-fong, now nearly 40 years of age and a Champion of Kwangtung Province many, many years ago. That was against the wind but it seems that a strong wind against helps rather than handicaps javelin throwers.

An account of the meeting would be incomplete without some comment on the greatly improving Chan Hung-man who should very soon claim the title of the finest Chinese 1,500 Metres runner in Hongkong's history.

He is now on a level with MacMahon and Curzon at their best and his 4:27.4 in Sunday's conditions was a grand performance. On top of that, too he won an easy 800 in 2:13.2 and a very respectable third in the 3,000 Metres in 9:40.4.

If he concentrates on the 1,500, he should be the first Chinese Colony Champion in this event and I think, with all due respect to his long distance ability, that it isn't wise of him to start in the 30 Kilometres Race this coming Saturday.

To Beat Manchester United Is Every Footballer's Ambition These Days

Says ARCHIE QUICK

Defence in depth is the well-worn axiom of most football clubs. Manchester United apply it in a different sense. The greatest manager in modern football, Mr. Matt Busby, says his defence in depth is preparing for the years ahead and letting the present look after itself.

United are the nearest approach to an automaton in sports that one could get. They have made for themselves on the bomb-scarred acres of Old Trafford an enclosure and club house which compares more than favourably with anything in the world. It is the last word in lush comfort.

To fit it Mr. Busby, once an outstanding international wing half with rival Manchester City, has not only built himself the team which won the Championship last season but threatens to do the same again this time—plus the Cup. He has also laid in store for the years to come—three or four of them.

Defence in depth. We take every match as it comes but we are concentrating on the Cup Tie. We find the League matches easier despite the fact that everyone wants to topple us off the pedestal. To beat Manchester United is every footballer's ambition these days, the same as it used to be against Arsenal.

A THIRD TEAM "Everybody knows my League side but what they do not know is that I can field a duplicate eleven from my Central League reserve team that would beat most League sides that it would lose to. And I have a third team that would give those reserves a run for their money as well as a youth team of 18 years average age, the finest in the country. You see what I mean by defence in depth."

But Mr. Busby is careful to point out that his is not a 10-0-a-man team. "I built my youngsters round two experienced forwards," he says. "Jimmy Taylor cost me nearly £30,000 from Barnsley and John Barry more than half that sum from Birmingham City." The secret of his success, however, is catching them young. Mr. Busby has an organisation

which covers every school match in a far-flung area of Lancashire and nothing escapes the net. The slightest sign of a promising footballer and the club is landed. No wonder Matt is a Vice-President of the Manchester Schools Football Association. There is a solid efficiency about Manchester United's scouting system only approached by a similar policy of Wolverhampton Wanderers, who Mr. Busby says are his greatest rivals despite Arsenal or Spurs.

Many people have jumped to the wrong conclusion, say the Football League's declaration that it intends to hold a special meeting in April to study the possibility of forming a Super-European League. They have formed the impression that such a desirable prospect is already an accomplished fact. Nothing of the sort. Indeed, the inauguration of such a scheme may be many seasons away.

First of all, the League's meeting is purely exploratory. In fact, they have yielded to outside pressure in holding it. A minority, and I repeat minority, hold the correct view that such a League is the one thing that can revive the game before it loses the public's confidence. Never in thirty years experience have I known League football so humdrum, and, of course, the public feel the same way about it. That is reflected in the so-very-much-maligned "Gates" the clubs are hawking. At a guess, I would say one game in half a dozen is a thriller, instead of a crackerjack every Saturday for the supporters' entertainment. So many matches do not click because the

clubs are so concerned over defence.

PIPE DREAM This Super League pipe dream, conjured up by the few, and which would need FA and FIFA sanction, would be for the cream of the Continental talent—confined, I expect, to Western Europe, plus the best in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. And that is the rub.

Who would be the "home best"? Manchester United, Glasgow Rangers, Arsenal, Spurs, Preston, Celtic, Hearts, Aberdeen, Wolves, Blackpool, Cardiff and Glentworth? There are a dozen and what rage that would cause Manchester United in; City out. Hearts in; Hibs out. Wolves in; the Birmingham club out. Cardiff and Glentworth hardly good enough, but twirly in for national prestige's sake. And that is where it will probably fall down. The League will "explore" next April, but I do not anticipate it will be a very long avenue. And they will certainly reject the 64-club plan which has been proposed.

Think again. The First and Second Divisions of the League comprise 44 clubs with 44 votes. Is it feasible that they are going to vote away their best money-spinners? Fancy a First Division, without the clubs I have mentioned at random, "Gates" would plummet even lower.

No, in my opinion, the only answer is a Continental League run on the same lines as the European Cup, with, say, one, perhaps two, representatives from each country—but held concurrently with the Football League's season. And that would be a big physical strain on the players.

NOW OLYMPIC CHIEF CAN SAY 'I TOLD YOU'

By BOB FERRIER

Mr Avery Brundage is now permitted a wry, little smile. Mr Brundage, variously known as "Slavery Avery," "Umbrage Brundage" and "the only man who never takes off his stuffed shirt," is President of the International Olympic Committee and, as he is a Chicagoan, the Committee's No. 1 "mouth-piece."

He is the man who, before the Melbourne Olympics, announced that all athletes competing should affirm in writing that they would never turn professional.

Callover On Lincolnshire & Grand National

London, Feb. 19.

Prices quoted at last night's first Victoria Club callover on the Lincolnshire Handicap (March 27), and Grand National Steeplechase (March 29) were:

Lincolnshire Handicap
100 to 7 Loppylugs; Empire Way and Setting Star.
18 to 1 River Line, Precious Heather and Dismale.
20 to 1 Tudor Jinks and Mountain Music.

22 to 1 Sunlight.
25 to 1 Amber Glass, Counsel King's Coup and Nicholas Nickleby.
33-1 Choo and Nonchalance.

Grand National Steeplechase
100 to 6 Goosander, E.S.B., Key Royal and Glorious 12th.
20 to 1 Much Oblige, Quare Times, Gentle Moya, Hart Royal, Sam Brownhorn and Sunday.
25 to 1 Royal Tan, Green Drill, Sydney Jones and Wyndburgh.
33 to 1 Armorial III, Early Mist, Felias and Sandy June 11.
50 to 1 Must.

LITTLE BUSINESS Very little business was transacted, bookmakers installing three horses—Loppylugs, Empire Way and Setting Star—joint favourites for the Lincolnshire while Goosander, E.S.B. (last year's winner), Key Royal and Glorious XII share favouritism for the Grand National.

Only horses to attract support for the Lincolnshire were Loppylugs, winner of last year's Cambridgehire Handicap at Newmarket—River Line, second in the Lincolnshire last March, and Choo, an Epsom-trained French-bred four-year-old who has shown some smart form over hurdles this winter.

Grand National betting was negligible, only modest bets being staked about Goosander, Much Oblige and Sam Brownhorn, one of Irish trainer Vincent O'Brien's five entries.

Next callover on both races is on Monday, Feb. 25.—China Mail Special.

Manchester U. Score 5-1 Win Over Charlton

London, Feb. 18. Manchester United League Champions, coasted to a 5-1 win today against bottom club Charlton Athletic and increased their lead at the top of the First Division to six points.

Bobby Charlton, deputising at inside-left for Dennis Violante, one of United's three absent stars, scored a hat-trick. International centre-forward Tommy Taylor got the first two other goals.

Inside-right Bobby Ayres scored for Charlton five minutes before the end.

Results of today's two English First Division football matches were:

Aston Villa 2 Portsmouth 2.
Charlton Athletic 1 Manchester United 5.

Both games were postponed last Saturday because of Football Association Cup ties.—Reuters.

Ford Lodges Appeal Against Suspension

London, Feb. 18. Trevor Ford, the Wales and Cardiff footballer, has lodged an appeal against his suspension by the Football League. The League suspended Ford indefinitely, 18 months when he refused to substantiate or withdraw unconditionally allegations he made in newspaper articles about irregularities in some transfer deals.—China Mail Special.

Asian Hurdles Record

Manila, Feb. 19. Philippine Olympian Francisco Sanopai, yesterday set a new Philippine and Asian record for the women's 80 Metres Hurdles. She ran the distance in 11.4 seconds in Baguio City.

The Philippine mark was 11.7 also set by Sanopai, while the Asian Games mark, also 11.7, was set by Japanese Michiko Iwamoto in the 1954 Second Asian Games here.

Sanopai made the new mark during the National Private Schools Athletic Association meet.—France-Press.

World Cup Soccer Match Abandoned

San Jose, Costa Rica, Feb. 18. Guatemala refused to resume play after Costa Rica had scored, to lead 3-1 in the football World Cup preliminary round game here yesterday, and the referee abandoned the match.

The incident occurred early in the second half of the game which counts in the Central and North American Zone Group of the competition.

Guatemala disputed the validity of the goal after 15 minutes argument the referee suspended play after 20 minutes of the second half.—Reuters.

Scottish FA Cup Draw

Glasgow, Feb. 18. Draw for the quarter-finals of the Scottish Football Association Cup, to be played on Saturday, March 2, is Celtic or Rangers vs St. Mirren; Falkirk vs Queen's Park or Clyde; Dunfermline vs Raith Rovers; Ross County vs Inverness or Aberdeen.—Reuters.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Boxing Tourney

Sir,—Each year, as part of its drive for funds in aid of the Earl Hall Fund, the Hongkong and China Branch of the British Legion organizes a boxing tournament, held under the auspices of the Hongkong Amateur Boxing Association.

In view of last year's success, when over \$3,000 was raised, the tournament will again be held in Kowloon at the Queen Elizabeth III Stadium, Macpherson Playground, on Friday, March 29, at 8.30 p.m.

The card is being arranged by the HKABA and details of the contestants will be published in due course. The public will not only have the opportunity of enjoying an excellent evening's boxing, but will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are financially contributing to a very worthy charity.

All tickets, both reserved and unreserved, are at popular prices and can be obtained at the following places:

HONGKONG:—F. E. Skinner & Co. (H.K.) Ltd., Union Bldg., Pedder St., Moutrie & Co. (H.K.) Ltd., Chater Rd., China Flat Club, Gloucester Rd., Mission to Seafarers, at Gloucester Rd., Staff Recreation Officer, R.M.S. Tamar, Queen's Rd. E.

KOWLOON:—European Y.M.C.A., Salisbury Rd., Chinese Y.M.C.A., 23 Waterloo Rd., Macpherson Playground, at Fo Fong Street, Moutrie & Co. (H.K.) Ltd., 238 Nathan Rd., United Service Recreation Club, King's Park.

In bringing the Earl Hall Fund boxing tournament to the notice of your readers, it is hoped that it will be as well supported as last year. Any donations received by the Chairman will be used to invite convalescent servicemen, at present in hospitals, to the tournament. A. N. BRAUDE, Major, Chairman, Organising Committee, Earl Hall Fund Boxing Tournament.

Colony Tennis Championships Start

Highlight of the first day's matches of the Hongkong Lawn Tennis Association's Open Colony Championships which started yesterday at the Hongkong Cricket Club was the

plucky fight put up by school-boy Ng Man-chung who took two games off the defending Champion, Ip Koon-nung, before being eliminated 0-1, 6-1.

Against a player nearly twice his age, Ng brought off some lovely shots that had the perennial champion on the wrong foot on some occasions.

Ng Man-chung displayed a good repertoire of strokes, the best of which was his backhand slice that went deep down the service line.

His services, however, need improving if he is to get anywhere near the top for time and again he was double faulted.

The Colony Champion reeled off five games in a row and when it appeared that he would make it a love first set win, Ng sent over three beautiful shots to take the sixth game, but lost the next to Ip at 6-1.

The second set saw Ip taking a 4-0 lead when Ng Man-chung broke his service to take the fifth game. That was the best he could do and Ng bowed out of the first round with scores of 6-1, 6-1.

The other matches ended in double quick time for the winners, with the exception of the A. J. King vs Chan encounter which produced some long rallies with victory going to Chan at 6-2, 3-6, 6-4.

THE RESULTS

Singles
Ip Koon-nung beat Ng Man-chung 6-1, 6-1.
P. Chan beat A. J. King 6-2, 3-6, 6-4.
S. L. Ribeiro beat H. P. Ho 6-0, 6-3.
F. Y. Lee beat I. E. McLean 6-3, 7-5.
H. Appleboom beat J. C. Evans 6-3, 6-4.
S. L. Ma beat K. Y. Chang 6-3, 6-3.

TODAY'S TIES

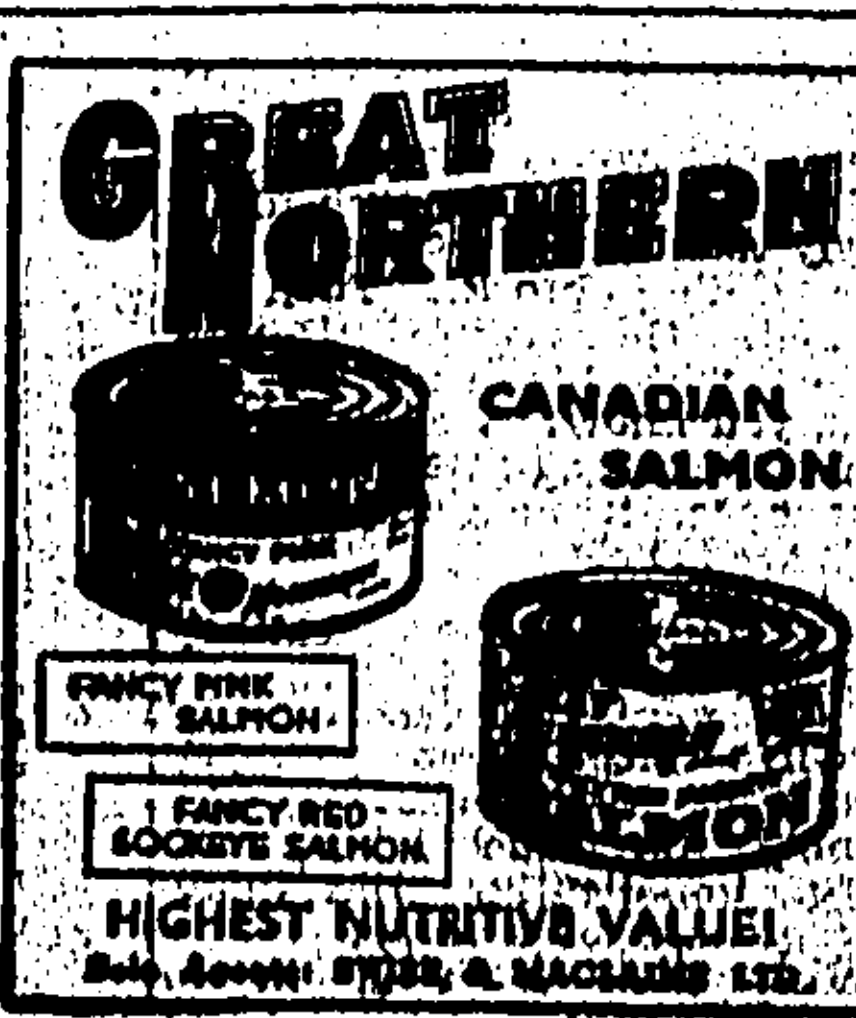
Singles
(1) G. Tsai v M. Lo; (2) T. Lo v G. A. Amador; (3) D. G. Coffey v F. Ling; (4) T. L. Dunn v B. S. Lee; (5) G. Lam v F. S. S. Ho; (6) A. Sanderson v J. Hsu; (7) C. H. Clout v W. K. Chung; (8) H. A. Van Dyck v K. S. Wong.

NO VISAS FOR OLYMPIC SKATERS

Budapest, Feb. 18. The United States has refused visas to Olympic silver medalist skaters Lash and Marian Nagy of Hungary, the United States Legation said here today. No reason was given for the refusal.

The Nagy pair, brother and sister, were to have competed at an international figure skating meeting at the Olympic Games in the Czechoslovakian town of Bratislava.

THE GAMBOLS



Ford Lodges Appeal Against Suspension

London, Feb. 18. Trevor Ford, the Wales and Cardiff footballer, has lodged an appeal against his suspension by the Football League. The League suspended Ford indefinitely, 18 months when he refused to substantiate or withdraw unconditionally allegations he made in newspaper articles about irregularities in some transfer deals.—China Mail Special.

HERE'S A WARNING. NINO:

Erskine Looks Really Sharp

Cardiff.

As I understand it, Nino Valdes should pack his bags and go home if he doesn't want to get hurt. Benny (the Bold) Jacobs says so.

Mr Jacobs, manager of heavyweight Joe Erskine, even has a timetable drawn up for the awful things Pal Joey has in store for Nino come February 19 at Earls Court. This is it:

Seventh round: Tongue hanging out.

Eighth round: Eyes popping out.

Ninth round: Spark out.

Are you listening, Nino? Dismiss it, if you like, as pure unadulterated managerial malarky.

But you'd better remember that Benny the Bold has been right more often than most people concerning the casualties of our 23-year-old British Champion.

It was Benny who told the doubting folk round these parts—Cardiff is just beginning to appreciate Erskine's skill—how their boy from Tiger Bay would lick big Dick Richardson, and outbox clever Johnny Williams.

FINE SHAPE

Jacobs was so tight. What price 5ft. 10in. Erskine taking his unbeaten run to 31 fights against the 31 Cuban, just the way Benny says?

All I know is that Erskine is looking in remarkably fine shape for a man who has been out of action for six months.

The other day at a gym over a green-grocer's shop in Cardiff's Covent Garden (cauliflowers on all floors), I saw Erskine whip through the hardest work-out any British fighter has had since Randolph Turpin prepared to meet—said I—Sagat Ray Robinson nearly six years ago.

Not four or five rounds of slap and tickle but ten three-minute rounds was Joe's which—against relays of sparring partners, five in all, who came in fighting fresh every two rounds.

And how Erskine, sharp as a tack, punished them. He doesn't, of course, claim to have a bit punch, but he successively wore down some very big men—Ansel Adams from Trinidad, big Frank Bell of Yorkshire who wore a padded leather strap round the chin once cracked by Jack Gardner; Fred (Nosh) Powell, from London's Old Kent road; Joey Armstrong, of the Gold Coast.

Erskine, not even breathing hard, was still going well enough to slow him down!

These ten-round sessions continue until trainer Rule will tell Joe: "Enough—don't jinx your strength in the gym."

By then Erskine will have completed 130 rounds of sparring—the equivalent of 13 fights. Martiano never boxed this much even at the height of his training.

Erskine himself has never done such concentrated work before. It is aimed at clearing that six-month lay-off out of his system. His weight shot up until it almost touched 15st. Now he is down to 14st. 5lb., and expects to weigh in, Tuesday week, at about 13st. 12lb.

THOSE EYES

He is running eight miles a day—while his weary sparring partners gladly hop lifts aboard a following car.

Only one thing can stop Erskine giving Valdes a tremendous fight. His eyes are extremely susceptible to injury, particularly the left one, which has been split open by four of his last five opponents. That accounts for the long rest.

Only Valdes can put the healing to the test.

On this point Benny the Bold says: "I'm not worried. Joe has won with cut eyes in the past—if he has to, he can do it again. Joe has been a champion at every phase of his career, right from the time he weighed 6st. How can they stop him now?"

Valdes may show Mr Jacobs how. But, believe me, Nino, it's going to take some doing.

Heavyweight Brian London staggered down the steps of the Dortmund ring on February 3 after a cruelly hard ten-round points beating by German Champion Heinz Neuhaus and said, through battered, bleeding lips: "I hope I didn't let the jabs down."

He meant the hundreds of British troops who turned up at the vast Westfaliahalle, hoping to cheer 22-year-old Brian from Blackpool to victory.

Instead, they saw London give Neuhaus a fantastically gruelling battle in which the British boy conceded 10lb. to a man who held the European heavyweight title for three years. London need not worry. He let nobody down.

The scars of battle told their own tale of what a blistering

fight this was. London's left eye was cut above and badly swollen beneath.

The German had a jagged wound practically the whole way across his left eye.

Thirty-year-old Neuhaus, who weighed 15st. 8lb., seemed to dwarf London with his tremendous soft-bodied bulk.

In the first round the German's weight almost forced him to fall from the ring. London bowed in and hurtled Neuhaus backwards on to the top rope, which sagged alarmingly as nearly 30 stone, the combined weight of the two men, was thrust across it.

Neuhaus just managed to struggle upright and throw London off.

HECTIC ACTION

The fight started with real hot action, which was kept up all the way. It is hard to single out any round as a highlight, because the two men swung and slammed each other for ten thrilling rounds.

Neuhaus' eye was split in the second round, but this handicap was cancelled in the next when London received a similar injury.

In the early rounds the German started most of the action, charging in and swinging a wild right. For a full minute in the third Neuhaus trapped London in a corner by sheer bulk and flailed him with both hands until London in desperation had to leave him away bodily.

In the sixth London ripped home two good head punches, but near the end of the round a haymaking right swept the British boy halfway across the ring.

By the seventh they were smeared from head to toe in blood and rubbing it out of their eyes. London's mouth was so torn he couldn't keep his gumshield in. It flew out of his mouth every time Neuhaus whipped home an uppercut.

They were locked together, hammering toe to toe, right to the final bell, when the crowd shut rose and yelled appreciation.

It was a fair verdict by Dutch referee Barnd Bergstrom, but a mighty close one.

London's father, Jack London, former British Heavyweight Champion, was understandably disappointed, but like the rest of us, he clapped young Brian through his swollen lips as he was led back to his dressing-room, summed it up best.

He said: "I just lacked his experience, that's all."

FINCH'S RAW DEAL

Albert Finch, former British Middleweight Champion, was the victim of such a palpably "phone town" decision against German cruiserweight, Erich Schoppner that even the home-towners objected.

They whistled in anger when two judges and a German referee presented 24-year-old Schoppner with a six-round points verdict over Finch.

The 30-year-old Croydon man, seldom seen anywhere but in a Continental ring these days, gave Schoppner a boxing lesson.

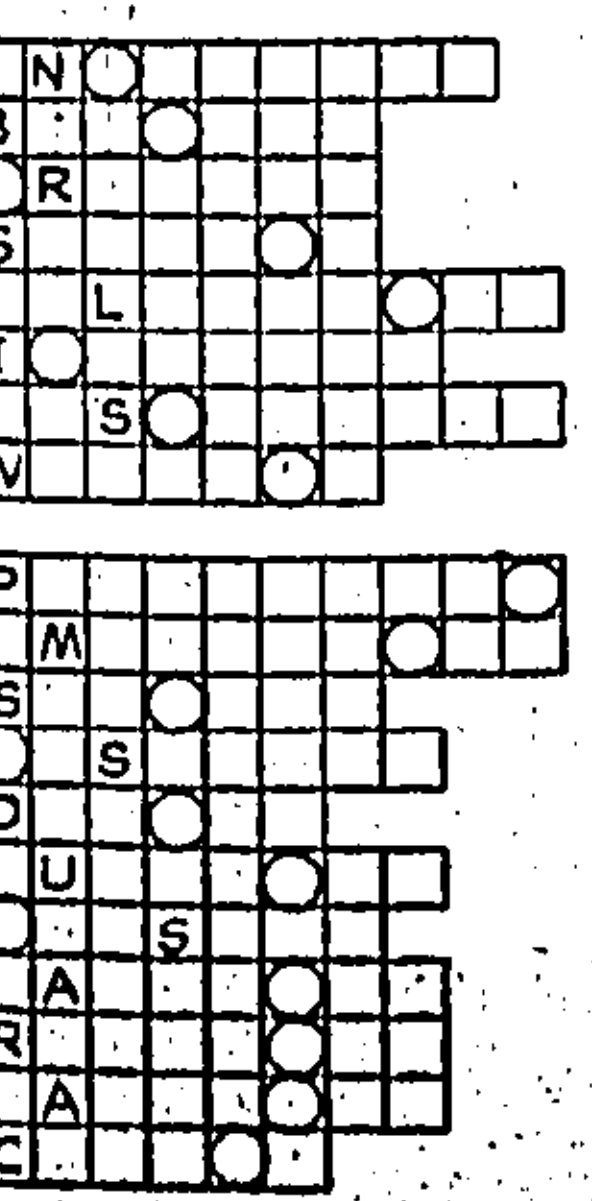
(COPYRIGHT)

NAMESAKES



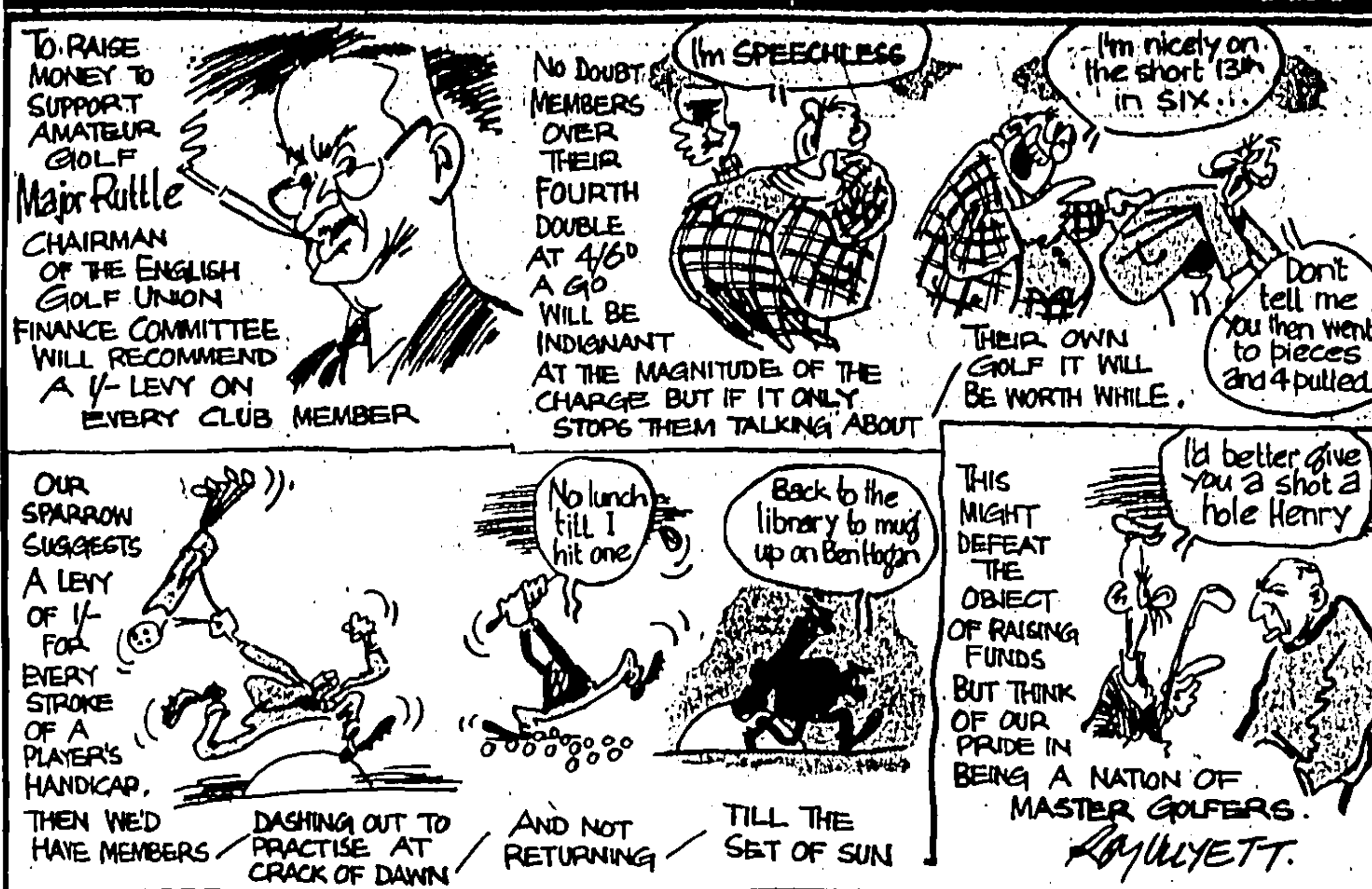
- 1 Disease
- 2 Missiles
- 3 Idle worker?
- 4 It lies East
- 5 Not concepts
- 6 Wounds
- 7 Enforces order
- 8 Injured
- 9 Calling
- 10 War supplies
- 11 Use of the knife
- 12 Infantry
- 13 In the house?
- 14 Stores
- 15 Tending the sick
- 16 Dressings
- 17 B & K
- 18 Bad list
- 19 Part of Russia

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the spaces against each of the clues below with a word related to my life. The letters in circles spell out my name. Who am I?



Solution on Page 9

ROY ULLYETT... GOLF ON A BOB BUDGET



YES, I STILL SUPPORT SOCCER'S No.1 REBEL...

Ford Was Denied Justice

WHY DIDN'T CARDIFF SUE HIM?...

WERE THE TREMBLING DICTATORS

AFRAID TO FACE A TEST CASE?

By Jimmy Guthrie

the former Portsmouth player who was "sacked" from his job as Chairman of the Players' Union recently.

I still back Soccer's rebel No 1—Trevor Ford of Cardiff City and Wales—although my support of this non-Union player helped those who knifed me in the back. Why do I support him?

Well, first I fault Ford for not being a member of the Players' Union. But he is still fighting for the first principle of the Union that is laid out on page one of the Union handbook.

This is the abolition of all social and financial restrictions on the players.

Ford, whatever other troubles he has involved himself in, has been fighting for freedom of contract; freedom of wage.

TREVOR'S CREED

The doctrine of big, black-haired Trevor Ford is: Why shouldn't a player be paid what he's worth... be free to join another club when his contract expires, and be free to negotiate his own contract?

These are human rights. In no other trade do workers allow talent to be suffocated by such archaic rules.

It's the glamour boys of football who pull in the crowds. Why shouldn't the stars get some kudos?

If every player "did a Trevor Ford" the whole rotten system would be forced into the daylight.

Actually, Trevor has told me that more Cardiff players would have struck with him if they could have afforded to miss wages.

The Ford versus Cardiff City case could have caused as much interest as a Cup Final—if Cardiff had decided to sue their rebel star.

Guthrie tells of the director's wife who wanted to pick the team.

When Trevor went on strike I told him I was praying Cardiff would sue him for breaking his contract.

CONTRACT TEST

I'm convinced that in his defence in court his counsel would have argued successfully that "this contract was voidable for uncertainty"—the uncertainty being that players' contracts might place a hold players' freedom of action indefinitely.

If Cardiff had sued, Ford could have burst wide open the current iniquitous, one-sided bargain whenever a player signs a contract.

Why didn't Cardiff sue? Were they afraid? Was pressure brought to bear from trembling dictators in the Football League and FA to steer clear of this dangerous test case?

Dictators fear rebels. I should know. Ford has been driven out of League football. So have I. But the flame of freedom lit by Ford may yet be kept burning by the inquiry ordered into the affairs of Sunderland.

I know there are important people in the Sunderland club

who would welcome a complete overhaul of the transfer, wages, and contract system.

Sunderland, who since the war have spent more than £300,000 in buying stars, would have no objection. I'm sure, to the stars getting a fair share.

Chairman Mr. E. Ditchburn proposed at the last annual meeting of the League a first stop.

"Make wages on a par with pre-war values," he said. This would almost double the present maximum wage of £15.

Many other clubs want to pay players more. My old friend comedian Tommy Trinder, a Fulham director, contends that players should be paid on a star-system which would be fixed after a stipulated term of service with a club.

Tommy thinks footballers are "mugs" to allow a system that pays stars like Stanley Matthews the wage of a chorus girl.

Back to Ford and a last fling by me at the pundits of the Football League who banned him.

Why wasn't Ford allowed representation when he was ordered to report to London's Paddington Hotel in December?

The report for the Ministry of Labour's investigation into players' terms and conditions in 1952 considered it a denial of justice if players were denied representation.

Yet Ford, obviously nervous as I met him before he went in to face his judges, asked for and was denied representation.

So I say Ford was denied justice.

(London Express Service). (COPYRIGHT)

Auxiliary Fire Service Orders

No. 4. Orders by Mr. Alistair Drummond, Superintendent, Auxiliary Fire Service, dated February 10, 1957.

Training Class: The Apollon, Aberdeen & Pocklington Training Class will be held on every Friday at the drill ground of Moor Shute School (by kind permission of the Principal) from 17.30 to 19.30 hours commencing from 18.2.57.

The Apollon, Aberdeen & Pocklington Training Class is hereby closed w.e.f. 18.2.57.

Post & Appointment: Mr. Off. (H.K.) Luk Tat-ching to be O.I.C. of the Apollon, Aberdeen & Pocklington Training Class w.e.f. 19.2.57.

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TODD-A-ONE

By DILYS POWELL

Michael Todd, producer of "Around the World in Eighty Days," has made a promise about the film's London premiere, announced for next May. People will remember it, he says, as long as they remember show business, but no longer.

It seems no time since the ballyhoo about the making of the piece with 88,000 performers in thirteen countries, since the engagement of an Englishman, Michael Anderson, to direct it, and the involvement of fifty stars, American, British, French and what-have-you, to play small parts in it. In those days, I looked on the whole affair with some distrust. One has seen films in which famous names walked on, and felt how much more satisfactory it would be if they walked off. But even then "Around the World in Eighty Days" had its interesting side. It was being made in a new wide screen process.

The system had been employed once before in the film of "Oklahoma!" But nobody had thought it worth while to re-equip a London cinema for the purpose, and the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical was to reach us in a CinemaScope version. There seemed little chance of our ever seeing Mr. Todd's monster screen. And so when I found myself in New York with "Around the World in Eighty Days" playing on Broadway, I hurried to take a look.

But first let me say what the process is.

CINERAMA HOLIDAY

It began, as a matter of fact, with Cinerama—which in the shape of "Cinerama Holiday" is still after months and months running in London. The showman Michael Todd is a man who, after the orthodox film companies had turned down the invention, grabbed Cinerama and, with his son as cameraman, produced the historic roller-coaster sequence for, comparatively speaking, pennies. The programme was a vast success. But Mr. Todd was dissatisfied. He liked the size and the effect of depth, but not the stripes down the screen. He sold his interest in Cinerama and set himself to badgering Dr. Brian O'Brien, savant of the American Optical Company.

The story says that Dr. O'Brien could not at first be bothered with showmen or films, but was finally prevailed on to meet his importer in transit at some Massachusetts airport. Mr. Todd explained that he wanted something like Cinerama, but better: without the three cameras and the three projectors; it all, he said, had to come out of the same hole. The result was a system using one camera and one projector, wide-angle lenses and 65 mm. film and called, after its sponsors, Todd-AO.

Nobody would claim that Todd-AO as I saw it a few months ago was perfect. Certainly not Mr. Todd, who, I am

old, has bought a small production theatre for research and is busy improving. New York, he says, will turn out to be the try-out for London. From where I sat in New York there was certainly a good deal of distortion. Even so, the film was enchantingly pretty, composed with taste, full of gay, bright colour and the feeling of sun and fresh air.

MEXICAN COMEDIAN

The film, I say, I have to call it a film. But really it is a show rather than a film, a rattle across Europe, Asia and America, with bloodless bullfights in Spain and belligerent elections in San Francisco, with scenes in London and Paris, Pakistan and Japan, with transport by balloon, elephant and ostrich, with David Niven as Phileas Fogg the intrepid Victorian who wagers that he will travel round the world in eighty days, and Cantinflas, the superb Mexican comedian, as his valet Passepartout.

There are famous faces in every scene, though sometimes only for a few seconds. "Sugar Keston!" one whippersnapper delighted, or "There's Gielgud!" And since the script is by S. J. Perelman there is wit in every scene, too. The laconic humour of Jules Verne's portrait of the correct Englishman is delightfully preserved, and the cinema has produced as its latest answer to television a piece which is funny and exciting as well as huge, a long evening's elegant, innocent entertainment.

When I saw the film last October people were already booking seats for the spring; in popularity "Around the World in Eighty Days" has proved the "My Fair Lady" of the screen. It is now to be seen in eight cities in America; Paris will follow London; and Mr. Todd is said to be talking of a hundred theatres all over the world equipped to show the piece.

In 1933 at the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition, Mr. Todd produced a Flame and Moth Girl Show ("I burned up four girls before I got it"). One's spirits soar at the thought of what, with nearly a quarter of a century's experience, he may do in London next May.

CRICKET DANCE

A dance to raise funds for the forthcoming cricket tour of Malaya will be held at the

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB on Saturday, March 2, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Tickets \$10 per head, including supper.

Table bookings at the H.K.C.C. or the K.C.C.

Dress: Informal.

Against skin disease and itching

Mitigal

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Sports Diary

TODAY

Athletics
Queen's College Annual Sports (Heals)
Tennis
Grasscourt Championships at HKCC, 9.15 p.m.

TOMORROW

Boxing
Land Forces championships in Sek Kong, 7 p.m.
Tennis
Colony Grasscourt championships at HKCC, 5.15 p.m.

Soccer
Inter-School competition final rounds, HK and Kowloon.

THURSDAY

Soccer
Exhibition game: All India v Combined Chinese (HK Stadium), 4.45 p.m.
Tennis
Colony Grasscourt championships (doubles) HKCC, 5.15 p.m.

Athletics
Queen's College annual athletics (Heals) at Caroline Hill.

Not Lawyers

Appleby, Appleby and Appleby. Sounds like a firm of solicitors, but, in fact, it is the half back line of Hollymoor Hospital in the Handsworth (Birmingham) League. Three brothers on the staff, Fred, George and Harry form this middle line. Oddly in the same League when Paget FC had four "bites" at a penalty "cherry" against Walmley. Three times the goalkeeper moved. Then Paget changed the kicker and scored. Yes, you can change the kicker or the goalkeeper for a retaken penalty.

Former Billiards Champion In The Lead

London, Feb. 18. Leung Driffield, a former World Champion, led Frank Wards, the holder, by 1,300 points to 1,000 after the first day's play in the three-day final of the English Amateur Billiards Championship tonight.

—Reuter.

CHINA MAIL

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Thursday, 21st February and
consignees' representatives are re-
quested to be present during survey.

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Douglas at Hong Kong & Kowloon
Wharf Goddard at 10.00 a.m. on
Wednesday, 20th February and
Thursday, 21st February and
consignees' representatives are re-
quested to be present during survey.

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RUSSIAN AIRLINE FORCED TO SMARTEN UP Western Competition Showed Advantages Of Luxury Travelling

By JOHN RETTIE

Moscow, Feb. 18.

One year's direct competition with Western airline companies has brought about a striking change in the standards of service offered by the Soviet airline, Aeroflot. Until the beginning of last year, Aeroflot had never known competition.

The Russians regarded air transport as a strictly utilitarian business of getting people from point "A" to point "B". There was no need to bother about attracting passengers because no other company flew on the same routes as their aircraft, either inside or outside the Soviet Union.

In any case, hardly anyone travelled between Soviet Union and the West during the "cold war". Even for three years after Stalin's death, Helsinki and Vienna were the only non-Communist capital in Europe directly linked to Moscow by air.

The service provided by Aeroflot on its Moscow-Helsinki and Moscow-Vienna routes was just, but only just, better than that on its internal routes.

Weak Tea

While on most internal routes, refreshments are now normally provided at all aboard aircraft, on the Moscow-Helsinki service there was weak tea and sandwiches (without butter) in a roughly packed paper bag.

The "air hostess" was sometimes a bright, lively girl who did her best with the few means at her disposal to welcome the passengers. But just as often she was unkempt and sullen, and slept all the way without taking any interest in the passengers. In any case, she never wore uniform, and rarely made any attempt to look smart.

Then, last February, the Finnish company Finnair, became the first Western airline to start flying regular service to Moscow.

Under an agreement reached in October, 1955, Finnair and Aeroflot began joint operation of a direct Moscow-Helsinki service, cutting out the stop at Leningrad and reducing travelling time.

Full Of Attention

Western competition had arrived. With it came comfortable airlines and smooth service by attractive, multi-lingual air hostesses, full of attention and charm in their immaculate uniform. The Soviet state airline operators had to sit up and take notice.

Although this service is operated on a "pool" basis under which the two airlines share all takings on the route, no matter which carries the most passengers, the contrast between travelling Finnair and travelling Aeroflot was too great for the Russians to ignore.

Another jolt towards higher standards came when Aeroflot concluded a similar agreement with Scandinavian Airlines System. Since last May, the two companies have been jointly operating new services between Moscow and Stockholm and Moscow and Copenhagen with a stop at Riga, in Latvia.

Now, a year after the first Finnish aeroplane flew to Moscow, the change in the standard of service offered by Aeroflot on its northern routes is startling.

A passenger who steps aboard a Soviet aircraft today is welcomed by a smiling air hostess wearing a neat, dark blue suit.

No Loud-Speakers

Before the journey starts, she brings round a tray of Soviet sweets for passengers to select during the take-off, although she still does not make the rounds, as on all Western airlines, to see that safety belts are fastened before take-off and landing.

There is no loud-speaker system, by means of which the air hostess or captain greets the passengers, in several different languages and explains to them the details of the flight. Nor, in the "dimly-lit" Soviet lounge, are there "cocktail" tables, as in Western airlines, to serve the flight route.

But since the journey is under way, the air hostess now goes to work serving refreshments. These come round on silver-plated plates in the Western

On the Helsinki-Moscow flight, fresh, tasty Finnish sandwiches, are offered in plastic bags, just as on Finnair air services. Coffee, though with lemon in the Russian style instead of cream, as well as tea is also on the menu. Finally, there are cloying meetings in a choice of pink, blue or white.

Marked Difference

One marked difference still noticed by Western travellers is the absence of cheap, duty-free drinks and cigarettes for sale. The Russians make a strict rule of never carrying alcohol aboard their aircraft.

Finnair and the Scandinavian Airlines agreed to do the same at first, but last autumn they brought their Moscow services into line with their other routes.

Although the Russians are now gaining experience and "know-how," they are still seriously handicapped by their old-fashioned aircraft in any attempt to match Western flying comfort.

The twin-engined Ilyushin-12 aircraft which is Aeroflot's "work-horse" is much slower and noisier, with more cabin vibration, than Finnair's twin-engined Convair. Unlike the Convair, the Soviet aircraft are

not pressurised, and they carry only half as many passengers. The Ilyushin-14 which is now coming into service is only a little faster and more comfortable.

But it will be a different story if the Russians begin to use their new TU-104 jet airliner, which is already operating on the Prague-Moscow-Peking service and certain internal routes.

Unsolved Problems

Apart from offering the extra speed, comfort and romance of "jet travel," the Russians also hope to bring standards of service of the TU-104 up to those of the West. It is the only Soviet airline which has meals at present regularly served, however, there is still much to be done. The inefficient and lackadaisical nature of Soviet restaurants, in which it is virtually impossible to get a quick meal, still makes its influence felt in jet-age travel at 35,000 feet and 500 miles per hour.

The Aeroflot Journal Civil Aviation stated in a recent editorial: "There are still many unsolved problems in providing passengers with food and good service. Employees must show more flexibility, speed and efficiency."—China Mail Special.

Britons Asked To Help Immigrants

Toronto, Feb. 18.
Britons in Toronto have been asked to help their countrymen immigrating to Canada in the same way Canadians help Hungarian refugees.

Charles Mason, organising secretary of the British Immigration Goodwill Association, said his association had received more than 2,000 letters from Britons asking about Canada in the past two weeks.

Mr Mason said it was the duty of Britons in Canada to help the expected rush of British immigrants.

"The least we can do is to extend our hands and say welcome," he said.—United Press.

Brazil Population Up To 61 Million

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 18.
The population of Brazil has now reached 61,000,000 inhabitants, the Brazilian Institute of Statistics announced today.

The Institute said that the Brazilian population was increasing at a rate of 1,500,000 persons per year, placing Brazil among the leading countries of the world in population increase.

Brazil has the seventh largest population in the world, following after China, India, the USSR, the United States, Japan and Indonesia.—France-Press.

Paris, Feb. 18.
The Soviet Union and Ceylon have decided to establish diplomatic relations and to exchange ambassadors, the Moscow radio announced today.

The radio said that M. Yakovlev had been appointed Soviet Ambassador to Ceylon.—France-Press.

KING SAUD MEETS GENERAL FRANCO



Red Youth Pioneer Movement

Vienna, Feb. 18.
The Hungarian Communist Pioneer Youth Organisation, which dissolved last year following the national uprising will be re-established, Budapest Radio reported today.

Quoting the Hungarian evening newspaper, Esti Hírlap, it said representatives of the (non-Communist) Youth Guards units, decided at a meeting today to dissolve the Youth Guards and reorganise the old movement.

(The official reason for the dissolution of the Communist Pioneer Movement last year was the one-sided orientation of the organisation and its bad influence on the young boys and girls.)

A decree issued by the Hungarian Presidential Council on the establishment of "workers armed units" will be published in tomorrow's official Gazette, Budapest Radio reported tonight.—China Mail Special.

High Treason Trial Of Africans

Johannesburg, Feb. 18.
The first prosecution witnesses were heard today in the pre-trial hearing of 156 Africans and Indians charged with high treason.

A total of 33 days were devoted to the reading of some of more than 11,000 documents produced as evidence by the prosecution.

Several South African policemen today took the witness stand in the Johannesburg Drill Hall, where the hearing is being held, to testify about speeches made at various meetings of the African National Congress.—France-Press.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted by air. Registered mail, which, in general, is easier than the ordinary mail, can be accelerated by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered mail are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

By Air
Formosa, 6 p.m.
Bombay, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 6 p.m.
Canada, 6 p.m.
Philippines, N. Borneo, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., 6 p.m.
By Surface
Japan, U.S.A., C. & S. America, 4 p.m.
Australia, New Zealand, 4 p.m.
By Air
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, 8 a.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Korea, 10 a.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.

China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Germany, Pacific direct, 10 a.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
India, Pakistan, Iraq (P. India, Persia via Karachi), 4 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

By Air
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, 8 a.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Korea, 10 a.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.

China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Germany, Pacific direct, 10 a.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
India, Pakistan, Iraq (P. India, Persia via Karachi), 4 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

By Air
Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kanton, Hong Kong, 8 a.m.
Japan, 8 a.m.
Thailand, Pakistan, Lebanon, Germany, France and Great Britain, 9 a.m.
Philippines, 1 p.m.
Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 6 p.m.
Thailand, Ceylon, Burma, India, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., 6 p.m.

China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Germany, Pacific direct, 10 a.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
India, Pakistan, Iraq (P. India, Persia via Karachi), 4 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

Radio Hongkong

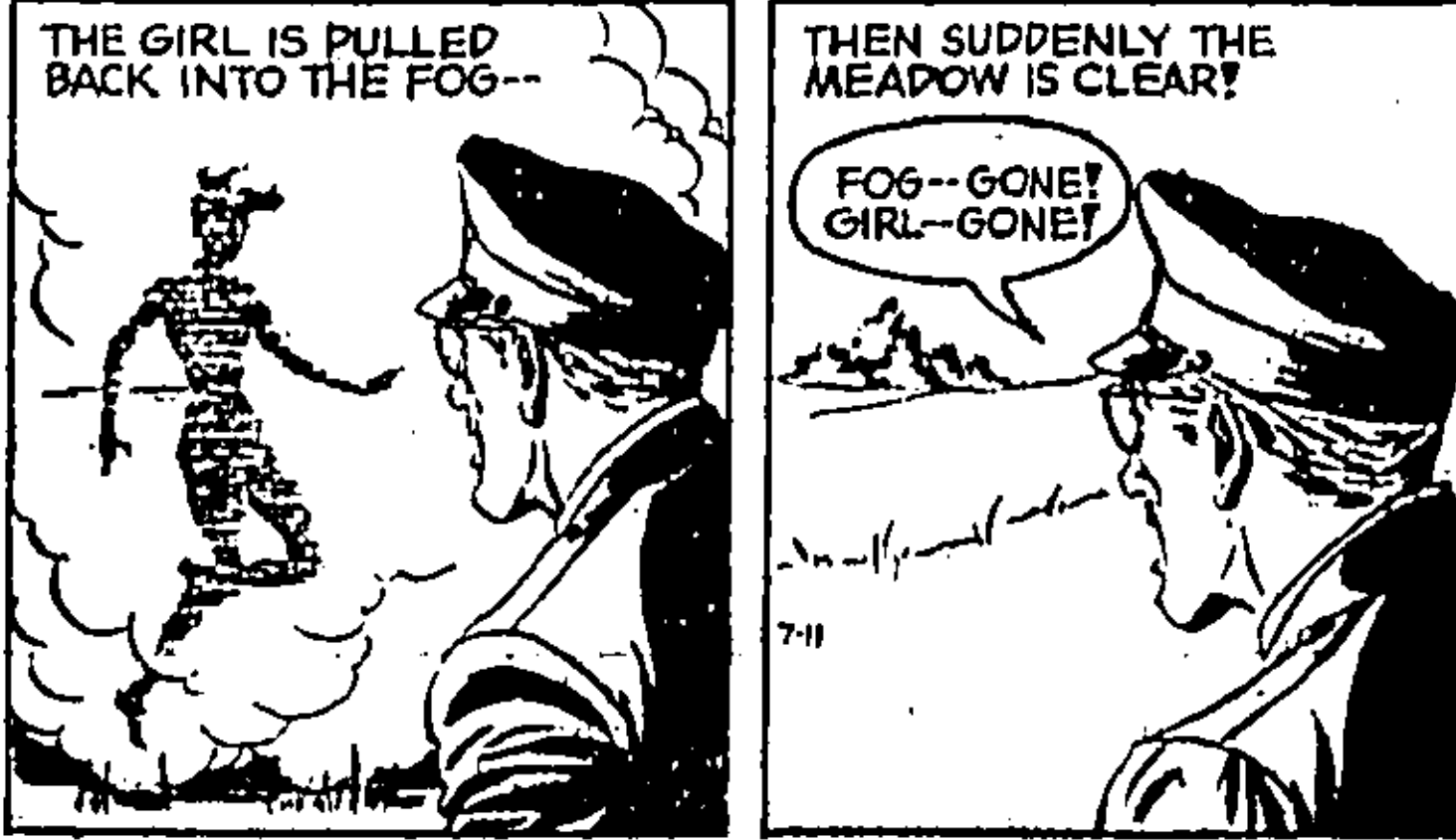
11.00. Time for Children presented by Elizabeth, "Alice in Wonderland", 5.55. Programme Summary, 6.00. Visit to Port of Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. Description of the Arrival of the Royal Yacht "Britannia" and State Drive through Kowloon, with record made at the State Banquet, 6.30. Variety in Music, A programme by the band of the North Staffordshire Regiment directed by Major Ernest Leonard Campbell, A.R.C.M., with commentary by John Walker, 7.00. Time Signal, 7.05. News, 7.10. Comments on Stop Press Item, 7.15. Weather Report, 7.20. News, 7.25. Australian Magazine, 8. "First Hearing" presented by David Lloyd George (B.D.C.T.S.), 9. Time Signal, 9.05. News, 9.10. Comments on 9.15. "Sherlock Holmes" (By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle), (Episode 6), Sir Ralph Richardson as Dr. Watson tells the story with Sir John Gielgud as Sherlock Holmes. Produced by Harry Alan Watts, 9.45. British Songs, French Choe of Wellington, 10.00. News, 10.05. Australian Magazine, 10.10. The Music Makers, Concerto for 10 Minor for Oboe and Orchestra, 10.15. Concerto in Major for Violin and String Orch. (J. S. Bach), 10.30. Weather Report, 11. Time Signal, 11.05. News, 11.10. Goodnight Music, 11.30. Close Down.

REDIFFUSION

2 p.m. Variety Cella the Tune, 3. Studio Musiques, 3.30. Fairies in Glee, 4. The Story of Bottle Castle, 4.15. The Time of the Day, 4.30. Variety, 4.45. News, 5.00. Comments on 5.05. "Sherlock Holmes" (By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle), (Episode 6), Sir Ralph Richardson as Dr. Watson tells the story with Sir John Gielgud as Sherlock Holmes. Produced by Harry Alan Watts, 5.45. British Songs, French Choe of Wellington, 6.00. News, 6.05. Australian Magazine, 6.10. The Music Makers, Concerto for 10 Minor for Oboe and Orchestra, 6.15. Concerto in Major for Violin and String Orch. (J. S. Bach), 6.30. Weather Report, 6.35. Time Signal, 6.40. News, 6.45. Goodnight Music, 6.50. Close Down.

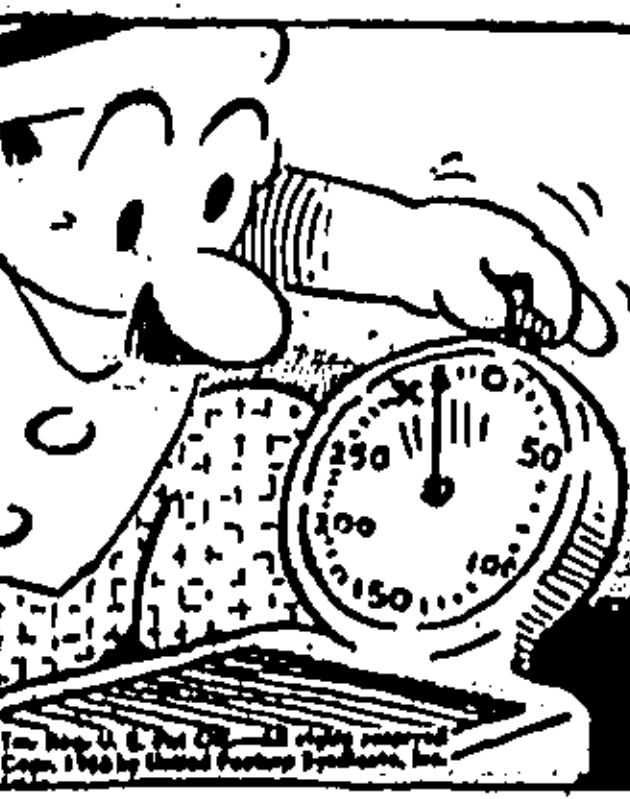
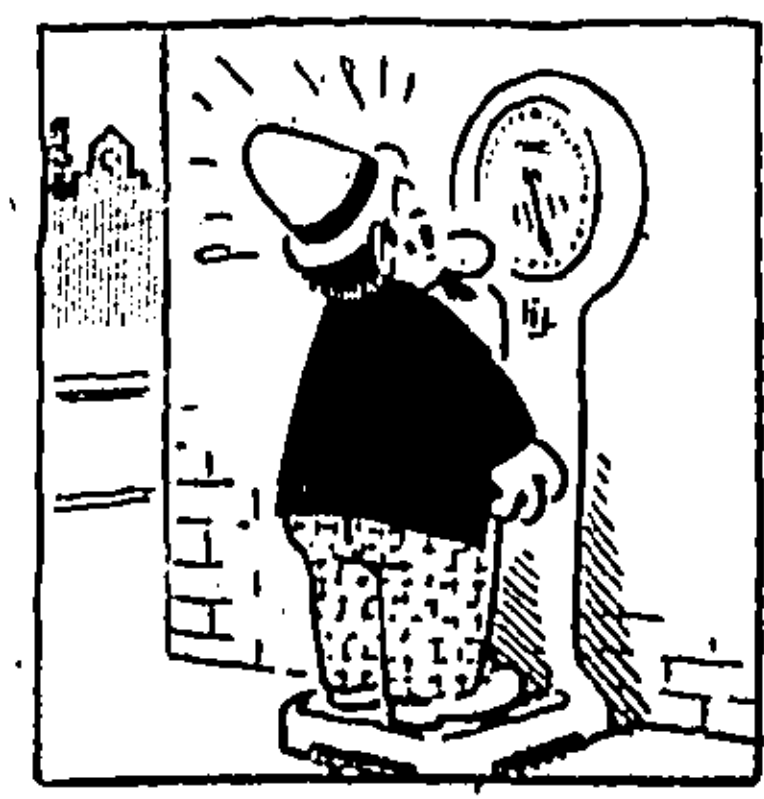
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



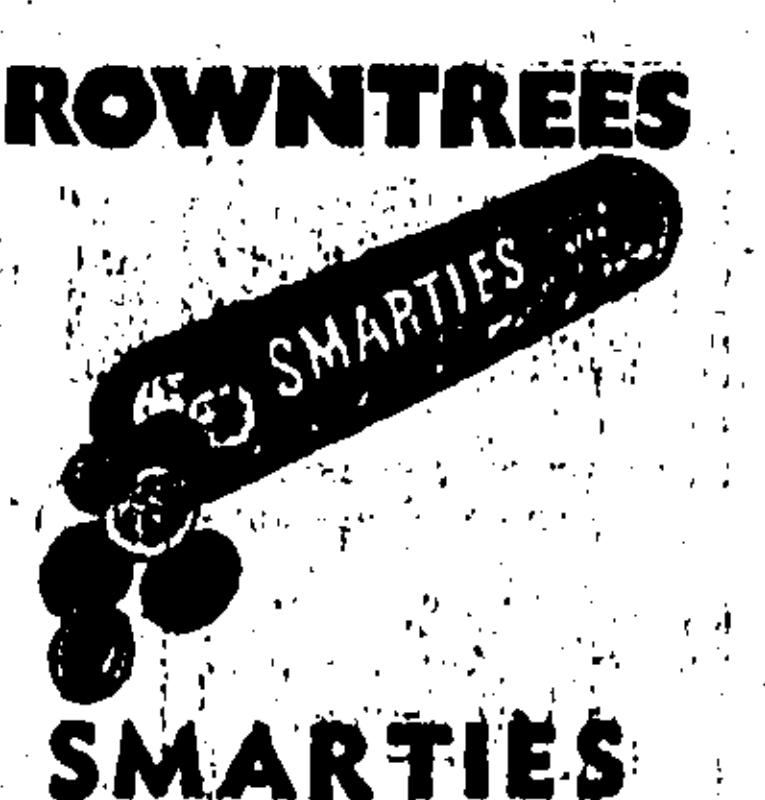
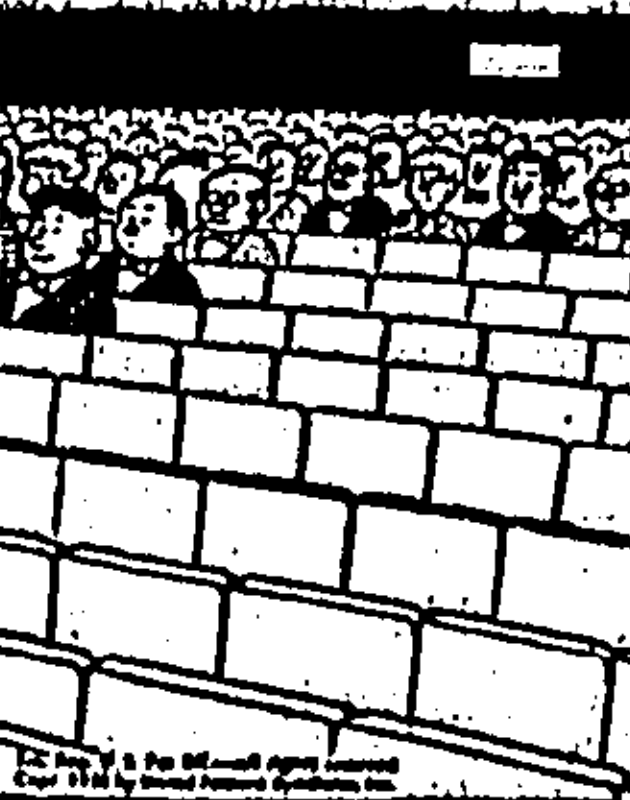
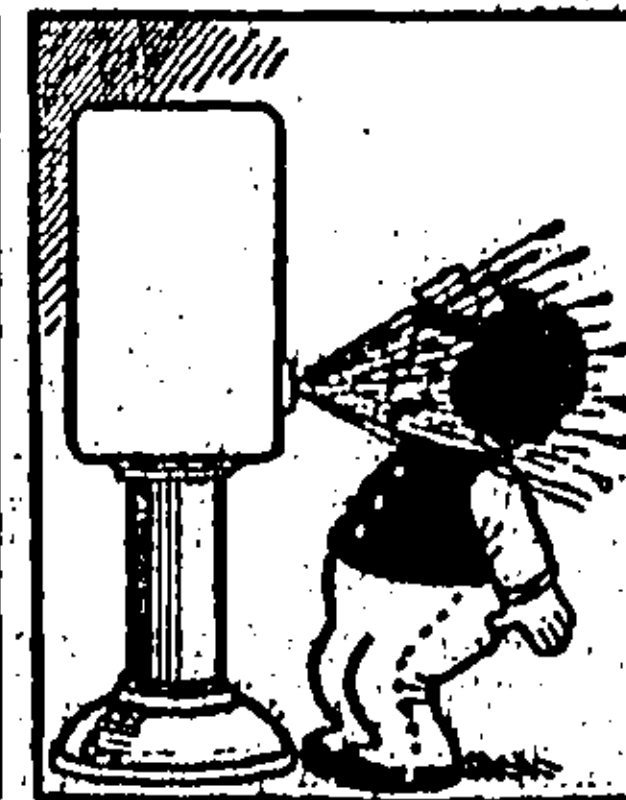
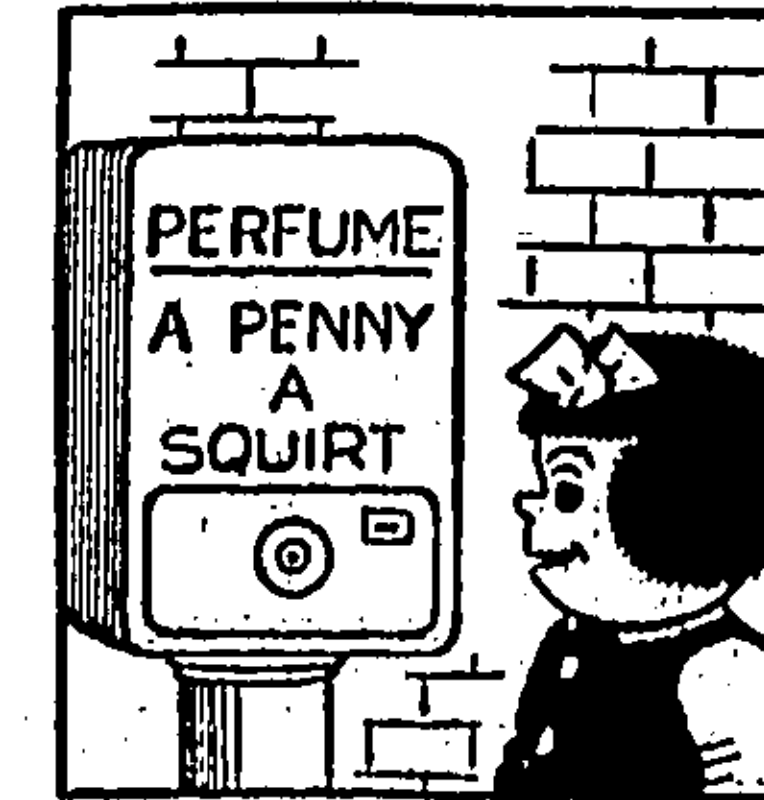
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By Milk



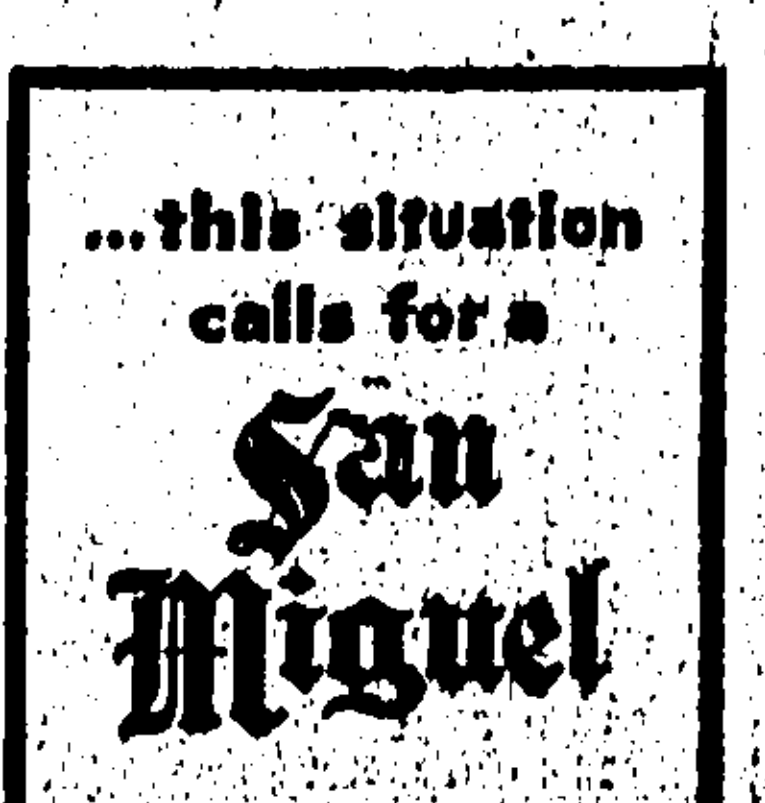
NANCY

By Erle Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

Interest Rate Rise Rejected

Washington, Feb. 18. The House Veterans Affairs Committee today rejected President Eisenhower's request to raise interest rate from the present 4½ per cent to 5 per cent.

Eisenhower had asked for the increase to encourage mortgage lenders to take a greater part in the flagging GI home loan programme.

The Committee, in rejecting the request, stated that veterans get home loans at ½ per cent less than other government-insured home mortgages. The interest rates on loans guaranteed by the Federal Housing Administration was boosted from 4½ to 5 per cent last year.—United Press.

WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

Singapore, Feb. 18. The rubber market opened lower on disappointing overseas advices and it eased further during the day on Federation liquidation.

There was a fair interest for lower sheets and some Australian buying.

Futures closings were:

No. 1 rubber per lb.	Mar.	80½-80¾
No. 2 rubber per lb.	Mar.	80½-80¾
No. 3 rubber per lb.	Mar.	80½-80¾
Spot rubber unbleached		80½-80¾
Blanket crepe		77-77½
No. 1 pale crepe		84-84½

The market was very quiet with spot quoted at 25-11/16 pence per lb. Prices:

No. 1 Rubber spot	25½-25¾
Settlement house term	25½-25¾
March	25½-25¾
Apr./June	25½-25¾
July/Sept.	25½-25¾
Oct./Dec.	25½-25¾
General market off base	25½-25¾
Feb./Mar. and Apr.	25½-25¾
Estimate crepe March	25½-25¾
thick	unquoted

The market was dull. Prices closed today in guilders per kilo, cif March as follows:

No. 1 rubber	2.50 nom.
No. 2 rubber	2.48 nom.
No. 3 rubber	2.46 nom.
No. 1 crepe	2.50 nom.

New York rubber prices were unavailable.—United Press.

New York Cotton Futures Quiet

New York, Feb. 18. Cotton futures moved lower in quiet trading today with nearby months registering the biggest losses.

At the close, the list ruled seven to 18 points lower. The market opened one to 16 lower. New Orleans closed nine to 12 lower.

The list drifted lower at the outset on liquidation brought about by reports of good rains in the drought areas of Texas, but settled back from the lows towards noon on some mill buying and short covering.

However, the posting of a further increase of 803 bales in certificated cotton stocks brought selling into old crop months with losses extending to \$1 a bale. But again buying set in with losses down further liquidation in nearby March which goes off the board on Thursday, February 21. The March open interest today totalled 97,200 bales. The certificated stock rose to 3,801 bales.

A leading spot firm reported increased mill interest in the Atlanta area this past week, but said the mills still are complaining of poor business, and it is doubtful that sales will be made until business improves.

Month	Volume	Open Interest
March	22,000	97,200
April	33,000	378,700
May	9,000	138,400
June	6,700	145,000
July	4,600	129,000
August	7,200	62,800
September	2,100	41,700
October	1,400	28,000
Total	91,600	1,022,200 bales

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.20
March	33.15
April	33.10
May	33.05
June	33.00
July	32.95
October	32.85-31

FREE TRADE AREA MAY BE READY BY AUTUMN

From RONALD BOXALL

London, Feb. 18.

The move towards free trade gathered considerable momentum last week. If the "deadlines" laid down by the OEEC Council of Ministers are met the proposed customs union of six nations will be set up by the end of the summer and the free trade area associated with it will be in operation a few months later.

This is hurrying things along more briskly than the proponents had dared hope. It was surprising that none of the OEEC countries who are lukewarm about the project—those who are large exporters of agricultural products and those whose economies are less highly developed than average—did not take advantage of the OEEC's rule of unanimity to delay the commencement of detailed negotiations.

These will now begin at once. Separate working parties will study the general problems of setting up the free trade area position of agriculture and status within the area of the less developed countries. Mr. Peter Thornycroft, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, will act as political co-ordinator of these groups, receive their reports and submit a draft convention to the Council in time for it to take further decisions before the end of July.

Firmly In Favour

These moves came less than a week after the British Government had declared itself firmly in favour of European free trade. Its White Paper on the subject envisaged an industrial free trade area in which import quotas would be abolished, "with the exception of a transitional period contemplated for the reduction of tariffs" and escape clauses kept to a minimum.

But it remained adamant that agriculture should be excluded from free trade arrangements and this attitude threatens to be one of the chief stumbling blocks in the coming negotiations.

Britain's view all along has been that agricultural products should be excluded so as to

preserve the advantages that the Commonwealth countries enjoy in the British market under imperial preference arrangements. Most other European countries—especially those in the "agricultural group"—oppose this view while recognising that free trade in agricultural products is probably impracticable. They insist that some form of regulated market for these products should operate parallel with the industrial free market.

Opinion in Britain is split on this question. On one hand there are those who fear that European free trade will damage Commonwealth trade relations and expose home agriculture to dangerous European competition.

Goes Even Further

On the other hand there is a section of opinion which goes even further than the Government and believes that Britain should not only join the free trade area, but drop its objection to inclusion of agriculture.

The Economist, one of the chief proponents of free trade, is of the opinion that government insistence of tying its decision about agriculture to need to maintain imperial preference is a "red herring". The real reason, it believes, is that the Government wants to go on protecting home agriculture to avoid losing votes.

The Economist's view is that the two categories of trade cannot be kept separate in practice.

"European agricultural nations (it says) that have long been tested about (Britain's attitude) can fairly be asked by non-agricultural and non-political Britons who dislike Britain's excessive agricultural protection as much as they do to ponder how long they really think that Britain will be able to maintain this one blatant moral weakness in its reservations about the trend to free trade in industrial goods is about. The point to note is not simply that without its exclusion, the agricultural Britain would not join free trade area; it is that if Britain remained outside the area there would be little hope of ever loosening our agricultural protectionism, while now we are coming in useful pressures will surely arise. Liberals—on the Continent as in Britain—should think this one out—with an inscrutable smile."

Opponents

Opponents of free trade have already thought it out—and found nothing to smile about. It is at least debatable whether inclusion of agriculture in the free trade area would jeopardise what remains of imperial preference or not. But need to give some protection to home agriculture for purely non-political reasons is incontestable. Economically and strategically Britain would be weakened if her agricultural industry were exposed to full blast of European competition.

On the other hand one cannot extol the advantages of economic specialisation and maintain a case for excluding agriculture. Fortunately, however, the choice is not between free trade with agriculture or no free trade at all. Even common market countries which propose to go further towards economic integration than Britain ever contemplated recognise special position of agriculture. A compromise to satisfy both purists and protectionists should not be impossible to find.—London Express Service.

NAMESAKES

Answers—1. Infection, 2. Bullets, 3. Orders, 4. Scutari, 5. Volunteers, 6. Injuries, 7. Discipline, 8. Wounded, 9. Profession, 10. Ammunition, 11. Surgery, 12. Hospital, 13. Doctor, 14. Supplies, 15. Nursing, 16. Bandages, 17. Bandages, 18. Casualty, 19. Bandages, 20. Casualty, 21. Casualty, 22. Casualty, 23. Casualty, 24. Casualty, 25. Casualty, 26. Casualty, 27. Casualty, 28. Casualty, 29. Casualty, 30. Casualty, 31. Casualty, 32. Casualty, 33. Casualty, 34. Casualty, 35. Casualty, 36. Casualty, 37. Casualty, 38. Casualty, 39. Casualty, 40. Casualty, 41. Casualty, 42. Casualty, 43. Casualty, 44. Casualty, 45. Casualty, 46. Casualty, 47. Casualty, 48. Casualty, 49. Casualty, 50. Casualty, 51. Casualty, 52. Casualty, 53. Casualty, 54. Casualty, 55. Casualty, 56. Casualty, 57. Casualty, 58. Casualty, 59. Casualty, 60. Casualty, 61. Casualty, 62. Casualty, 63. Casualty, 64. Casualty, 65. Casualty, 66. Casualty, 67. Casualty, 68. Casualty, 69. Casualty, 70. Casualty, 71. Casualty, 72. 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JOHN CLARKES
CASEBOOK

Torrent Of
Words

SOPHIA'S dark hair looked as though a boy had been at work on it with some constructional toy. It was latched with metal hair-grips that held it so tight that no errant strand could escape.

Her mouth, as she came into the Clerkswell court, was a thin, tight, line, too, as though it were held in the lock of some other device. Grinly, she faced Mr. Frank Powell, the magistrate, as if she did not trust herself to speak the anger that she felt.

I don't steal, but...

"YOU are charged," said the learned clerk, "with stealing from a shop a tobacco pouch, a bar of soap, two scarves, some pins..."

An interpreter translated the words into English. The flood-gate that had held back Sophia's fury broke. A torrent of words came. To emphasise them, Sophia shook her head so violently that it looked as though the hair-clip could never hold. As though she were about to take her hair down in the literal sense.

The interpreter waited for a pause, then: "She says I don't steal them, but as they were in my possession I shall pay for them," he reported.

"Tell her I'll enter a plea of not guilty," said Mr. Powell.

No answer

ANOTHER surging torrent of words from Sophia. She says I plead guilty," the interpreter said.

"Ask her if she knows what stealing means."

The interpreter did. Sophia answered at length. "She says she never did such a thing, but she is very sorry she is guilty."

The police told briefly of Sophia's arrest. "She's a married woman. She had £20 on her when she was arrested," they said. "She's of perfect character, previously."

Sophia was discharged absolutely, but ordered to pay £5 ss. costs. A fresh flood of words came. "What was that?" asked the magistrate. "She says 'What shall I say?'" said the interpreter. No one volunteered an answer.

Treasure Hunt
Under Tower
Of London

London, Feb. 18. Four Britons received official permission to dig for treasure long rumoured to be hidden in the ancient Tower of London, where the Crown Jewels are kept.

The Ministry of Works issued a permit for digging under the bell tower of the fortress. Historians have long believed that the so-called "Barkstead" treasure, valued variously at between £7,000 and £50,000, was buried there.

It was said to have been secreted under the Tower by Sir John Barkstead, a Governor of the Tower of London during Cromwell's rule in the 17th Century.

The new gold "diggers" are Major Charles Pogson, a former Indian Army officer and former official water-diviner for the Bombay government, and three officials of the Speleological (Cave Explorers) Society.

Major Pogson is vice-president of the Society of Dowsers (water diviners) and believes the treasure may be hidden in a cavity under the bell tower.—United Press.

Inconsiderate
Driving

H.S. Mulchand, of 6 Ning Yeung Terrace, Bonham Road, was this morning cautioned by Mr. Thomas, Tam at Central Magistrate's court, for driving without reasonable consideration for other persons using the road.

In addition, his licence was ordered to be endorsed.

The Court was told that defendant drove a car down Ning Yeung Terrace on December 2 last year and when making a left turn into Park Road, his front offside mudguard struck the offside lamp of another car, causing damage to both vehicles.

OUR AUSTRALIAN NEWSLETTER

SHOCK FOR SYDNEY
TOWN-PLANNERS

From H. KING WOOD

Sydney, Feb. 13.

The NSW Department of Local Government threw a bomb into town-planners scheme of things last week when it tersely announced that North Sydney Council's plan for a twin city was "out of all proportion to reality".

After the first shock of this announcement had passed, town planners, estate agents and business men began wondering why the department had waited 11 years since the war to make up its mind on this point.

In these 11 years, Sydney, bursting at its seams, spread across the Harbour Bridge to the northern shore where the North Sydney Council, wisely seeing what would happen in the future, planned its new twin city scheme.

In the last few years, particularly, big business has flocked to that side of the harbour.

What is claimed to be the biggest office building in the Southern Hemisphere will be occupied by more than 3,000 people by May. It is nearly five years ago that an insurance company erected over there a huge building to which it is now making additions.

Scores of commercial firms have paid big prices for land and are in the course of building or about to, and there is not the slightest doubt that within the next few years much of the commercial life of Sydney will be transferred over the Bridge.

SOME OPPOSITION

All this did not happen, however, without some opposition from residents who were losing their homes in what North Sydney Council had designated as commercial areas and in the last municipal election quite a number of candidates stood whose policy was none other than to knock the twin city plan on the head.

Strangely enough, one of the leaders in this and one who must now be getting some considerable satisfaction, is a quiet little woman, Mrs. Hilliard. She was five years ago that she discovered that her home was in a commercial area and that soon after she was told that her home would have to move.

In those past five years Mrs. Hilliard has worried everybody she could worry. She has learned all she could possibly learn about town planning and about town planning laws until she became an authority on the subject and a person to whom many others turned for advice and information.

OUT OF REALITY

Last December she was elected to the Council together with quite a lot of other people who weren't nearly so enthusiastic about North Sydney being a city instead of a high-class residential area.

And so last week came that letter from the Department of Local Government telling North Sydney that its plans were out of reality.

There are people who say that the move has a far greater political background than any practical one and there are others, delving into records, who find that it was the present Premier, Mr. Cahill, who as Minister for Local Government some years ago, approved the twin city plan.

In any case the Department, notwithstanding the objections of Mrs. Hilliard and her supporters, will find that it is going to take much more than this to stop Sydney spreading over the Bridge, and in the North Sydney could house the commercial activities of Sydney.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Professional tennis promoter, Jack Kramer, who yesterday ended his successful pro tournament in Sydney, has given amateur tennis administrators much more than food for thought.

At a time of lagging attendance, even at the top grade matches, including State and National titles, Mr. Kramer has managed to pack the cash customers in to the extent that hundreds of them were quite happy to pay up to £2 a seat and a few short weeks has raised much more than £100,000 from gate money.

They must also feel a twinge of conscience because after halfheartedly agreeing to allow him to use their courts he has paid them more than £30,000 in hire charges.

There were days during the recent amateur NSW championships when the State Association had losses as high as £200 and possibly the best attendance at the national title was less than 800, whereas for one match in Adelaide, Kramer

managed to attract 16,000 spectators.

In Sydney this weekend the White City Courts have been packed for the finals of the Annet Tournament and there is no doubt that his Australian tour has been so successful that Kramer will be back, particularly now that it has been shown that the Australian public will pay big money to see top class tennis, particularly the power-packed sort turned on by the professionals.

BACKROOM BOYS

One of the most successful organisations ever founded in this country is, strangely enough, a government instrumentality with the high-sounding title of "Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation," but far better known and more easily said as CSIRO.

Into its orbit over the last 10 years, it has managed to attract the cream of Australian "backroom boys" in practically every branch of activity. It has interested itself in everything from the seabed to the highest mountain, from taking wool out of wool to making rain, from killing rabbits and raising fleas to growing parasites and mining minerals.

Existing on an annual head-out from the Federal Government and occasional disbursement of small cheques from private enterprise it has in the last 15 years cost the Government £30 million but made direct gains of £600 million and indirectly, through its aid to agriculture, many more millions.

Recently it came across a process for producing pure zirconium, a vital metal in some atomic reactors, which it has now sold to a United States company for £250,000.

The process, developed by an officer of the CSIRO Division of Industrial Chemistry, considerably reduces the cost of separating zirconium from an unwanted metal element from zinc.

Zirconium, incidentally, is one of the most useful of striking importance found in large quantities on Australian beaches.

BRAIN TESTERS

Two brain testers now being examined by CSIRO are in use of official rain to prevent forest fires in the valuable timber country of Gippsland, Victoria, and to extract a drug, hyocine, known as "Twilight Sleep" from a well-known Australian plant.

CSIRO is used in childbirth. Scientists discovered that hyocine can be extracted from a shrub called Duboisia and if experiments come up to expectations the discovery may make Australia the world's major source of supply.

So impressed is an American firm with the chances of these experiments succeeding that it has made a grant to CSIRO so that it can carry out further research.

On the fires angle, the CSIRO weather plane has been making a survey of the Gippsland forest and a CSIRO official says that it could be doled with artificially produced rain.

PIES AND BEER

There are more than a few Australians who seem to get some sort of grim satisfaction from looking upon the country as being inhabited by a race of starchy beer drinkers.

While there may be some justification for this, figures by the Australian Jockey Club for food eaten at Sydney's main race courses over the last 12 months would indicate that we are fast developing into a race of extremely hearty pie-eaters.

At Sydney's leading race-course—Randwick—last year, 204,000 pies were consumed, while the punters at its sister course, Warwick Farm, managed to wade through 200,000 of them.

At Randwick, also, punters managed to toss off 1,303,400 glasses of beer and it was obviously the winners who managed to dispose of 108,000 oysters.

At Warwick Farm just on 500,000 glasses of beer went down the hatch and the well-lit punters got rid of 8,800 oysters. Not surprisingly, hardly any fruit was eaten, the reason for this being that it was on the book-makers' sideboard.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"I'm a non-combatant, boys! Can't we negotiate a cease-fire without going to the United Nations?"

Flagrantly
Disobeys
Court

"A more flagrant disobedience of a Court order would be difficult to imagine," stated Mr. I. T. Morris at Kowloon Magistrate's court this morning when sentencing Li Yuk-tong, of 177 Fuk Wing Street, third floor, to nine months for traffic offences, and disqualifying him from driving for two years after serving his sentence.

Li had pleaded guilty to driving a private vehicle for purposes of hire, driving without a valid licence and without third party risk insurance on February 14. A charge of driving without the car owner's consent was taken into consideration.

It was revealed that on January 18 Li was charged with driving a private car for purposes of hire and driving without third party risk insurance and had been then disqualified from driving for twelve months.

A second defendant, Lai Wai-man, of 58 Mo Lan Village, Kowloon Tong, charged with aiding and abetting Li on this charge of driving a private car for hire, was fined \$500 or four months' imprisonment.

IMPORTED GOLD

Pleading guilty to importing 16 gold bars valued at \$21,000, into the Colony without a permit, Lee Yiu-kwong, 31-year-old ship's engineer, was fined \$1,500 by Mr. W. F. Pickering at Central Magistrate's court this morning.

Another
Record For The
Viscount

Hongkong Airways' \$350,000 Viscount jet-prop plane continued its record breaking time in the Far East by setting up a new time for the Hongkong-Manila flight this morning.

The 741-mile trip was completed in two hours 18 minutes which is 22 minutes faster than any previous time by a civil aircraft.

The Viscount left the Colony this morning on its first proving flight to Manila prior to beginning its regular service to the Philippines on March 2.

Piloted by Captain R. S. Colvin, Operations Manager and Chief Pilot of HKA, the aircraft took off for Manila at 8.00 a.m.

The aircraft and crew received a rousing reception in Manila, this being Manila's first look at a Viscount.

Apart from three Hongkong officials on board the aircraft also carried four officials of the Philippines Civil Aeronautics Administration.

The plane is expected to return to the Colony this afternoon with a full load of guests from the Philippines. Among them will be Mrs. Paul Magin, wife of the Philippines Foreign Affairs Under-Secretary, Mrs. J. V. Cruz, wife of the Presidential Press Secretary, officials of the Civil Aeronautics Administration, Civil Aeronautics Board, Customs and Immigration.

The aircraft will do a second proving flight to Manila on Thursday.

Pickpocket Victim

A Chinese woman travelling on a bus in Nathan Road yesterday had her jacket pocket cut and \$72 in cash stolen between Dundas Street and Cameron Road.

RIOTING DESCRIBED AT
TRIAL OF 19 MEN

A graphic picture of the behaviour of a mob in the Tsun Wan riots last October was given in the testimony of Det. Staff Sgt Chung Hon at the Criminal Sessions this morning.

On trial before Mr. Justice C. W. Reece and a Special Jury are 19 young men, accused of taking part in the riots.

The accused are Wong Shek-chun, Leung Yuk, Chong Shek-shan, Lau Wai-keung, Yuen Wing-sun, Ko Pul-kong, Yiu Chung-fai, Chung Yuen-pak, Lau Pui-soo, Mau Man-keung, Cheung Yiu-yin, Leung Chee-hung, Yip Kam-hung, Chiu Sung-fon, Chong Tung, Leung Chung, Tsang Yiu-man, Chiu Noi and Chan Sal-hung.

The first 15 are charged with rioting outside the South Textiles factory on October 11.

All the accused, except Leung Chee-hung, are charged with rioting on October 11 outside the Pao Hsing cotton mills.

The first six accused are further charged with rioting on October 12 outside Tsun Wan police station.

The accused Chong Tung and Leung Chung are also charged with rioting outside the South Textiles factory on October 12.

Tsang Yiu-man and Chiu Noi are also charged with rioting on October 12 outside the Kowloon Textiles Corporation factory.

Mr. V. L. J. D'Alton is defending first, second, sixth, ninth, 15th, 16th and 18th accused, instructed by Mr. P. L. Lam, of P. L. Lam and Co., and the 10th accused, on instructions of H.K. Woo and Co.

Mr. D.N.E. Ren, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting, assisted by Divisional Detective Inspector M. O'Brien.

CHANTING WOMEN

Sgt Chung said that events began when a group of about 50 women gathered outside the Pao Hsing cotton mills in Tsun Wan at 4.30 p.m. on October 11.

The women were all chanting. Later they were joined by a lot of men, most of whom were in khaki shirts and trousers, and carried Nationalist Chinese flags.

The men stuck these flags into the earth outside the factory gates. They then demanded that the factory hoist the Nationalist flag.

Sgt Chung said he went into the factory to speak to the manager, and then returned to speak to the crowd. He told them that the management had no objection to them hoisting flags as they liked, but since they had taken down the flag in the first instance, the management thought they should hoist it again.

One of the group then said: "We want the management to consent to three things: to hoist the flag, to set off firecrackers and to apologise to the free workers. If the management does not comply with these conditions, we will go in and burn down the factory," the sergeant testified.

TRIED TO REASON

He said that he reasoned with the crowd that it was not as if the management refused to allow them to hoist the flag, but since they had taken it down, they should put it up again. "I told them they must not burn down the factory, and if they did so, they would have to answer to the law," Sgt Chung said.

Cries of "Burn it! Burn it!" greeted his words.

Sgt Chung said that he went to Tsun Wan police station with Insp. V. O. Moss and returned with three sections of Police.

The crowd was still there and were throwing stones at the factory, refusing their lists, many shouted "Burn it! Attack!"

The police carried out baton charges and managed to post one section in front of the closed gates of the factory.

By this time a motor cycle came along Castle Peak Road. As it neared the mill, the mob stopped it and beat up one of the two men on it. He was rescued by the police.

MOB CHEERS

The men who had put forward the three conditions earlier on, now got to the front of the crowd, faced them and said "If the factory does not hoist the flag immediately, we will go in and burn it down!"

The mob cheered and echoed "Burn it down! Burn it down!"

Sgt Chung said that he went into the factory and saw in the compound some cotton which looked as though it had been burnt. He spoke to the manager again and then went to the entrance to speak to the representative of the workers.

The same man who had addressed the crowd before again faced them and shouted "We will give the factory five minutes to hoist the flag, otherwise we will go in and burn it."

And the crowd again echoed "Burn it! Burn it!"

Sgt Chung said that he told this man that it was wrong to incite the people to burn the factory and that if he did so he would be held legally responsible.

He noticed that this man had a kerosene tin by him containing liquid.

The man answered him "We are not afraid even to die. We would die for our country."

YOUTH GIVEN TIE

A group of about ten men then tried to rush into the factory, but he managed to stop them.

The spokesman then quickly passed over the kerosene tin to the youth, saying "Burn it," and the youth dashed and went towards the factory. Following him were about 100 men, some carrying Nationalist flags, others armed with sticks and poles and stones.

Sgt Chung said he chased after the youth. Catching up with him, he gave the kerosene tin a sharp kick. This sent it flying out of the youth's hands and as the liquid spilt on to the ground, he could smell kerosene.

However, some of the crowd managed to break into the factory. They overturned a car in the compound and when its petrol leaked out, some threw lighted matches to set it on fire.

DORMITORY RUSHED

A portion of the crowd rushed upstairs to the workers' dormitory. They smashed the windows with poles and stones and soon he saw smoke coming out from a window in the first floor, Sgt Chung said.

He said that it was about 7 p.m. when, on instructions, he returned to Tsun Wan police station. On the way back he saw a car burning in the road by the factory next to Pao Hsing.

Identifying the second accused, Sgt Chung said that when the Police returned to the factory they told the crowd to disperse or they would open fire. The second accused ran up to him and said "You tell the Inspector not to open fire, otherwise the matter will become very serious."

Sgt Chung also identified the eighth accused. It heard him shouting "Burn it! Burn it!" outside the Pao Hsing factory when the spokesman put up the three conditions," he testified.

Continuing with the events of October 12, Sgt Chung said that he went with Insp. Moss and a combined force of military and police to the vicinity of the South Textiles factory at 11.30 p.m. They found their way blocked by a mob of people carrying Nationalist flags, sticks and stones. The mob tried to let them pass and refused to disperse.

The first and second accused were in this mob. They told him that it was no business of the police or military but that it was the business between the factory and the workers, Sgt Chung said.

He added that the second accused also said that if the soldiers and the police proceeded no further, he would ask the crowd to disperse.

The first accused also promised to tell the crowd to move to both sides of the road if the soldiers and the police went no further, the witness said.

He said that he passed these words to the Army officer commanding and after said he would accept these terms. His relayed this to the two accused. The crowd then split up, moved back to both sides of the road and left the middle clear.

Sgt Chung added that soon after they met with this crowd, he saw a man inside the South Textiles factory pass a piece of paper out to another man outside the gates. This man read the document aloud and the crowd applauded and shouted "We agree."

"I saw the fourth and fifth accused then clapping their hands," Sgt Chung said.

The following day about 500 to 600 people in different groups marched up to Tsun Wan police station, he continued. A number of people were being escorted to the police station.

He identified the first accused as one of the escorts holding a stick, and the second, fourth and fifth accused also as escorts.

cross-examination, witness told Mr. D'Alton that he knew some of the workers by sight.

On October 10 he accompanied Inspector Moss on a general patrol of the area. They went to a tea house where a ceremony was being performed. He did not know any of the reception committee and did not have any conversation with any of them.

Witness said he could not remember what clothes the first, fourth, fifth and eighth accused were wearing when he saw them on the night of October 11. He remembered second accused was wearing a khaki shirt.

Both Inspector Moss and himself had warned the crowd outside the Pao Hsing mills that if they did not disperse the police would open fire.

Witness said that he went along with the combined military and police force. There he saw the first and second accused. He did not see any form of violence there.

Hearing is proceeding.

LETTER TO
THE EDITOR

A Protest

Sir—I notice in Saturday's China Mail under the heading 'Concours d'Elegance and Motor Rally', an official using the Union Jack as a starting flag.

Surely this abuse of the British national flag is bad taste and quite incorrect.

The Union Jack, to the best of my knowledge, is the national flag of the British Empire.

I, as an Englishman, have no other flag except possibly the flag of St George.

Between the two world wars I remember a British merchant ship which had reason to fly the British Consular flag.

This flag is the Union Jack with the consular service badge in the centre, and it was hoisted at the yardarm.

Within a half hour a dispatch boat arrived from a British light cruiser with instructions that this flag must be hoisted at the masthead forthwith.

In Hongkong the Union Jack is used to start motor cars in a rally.

There is little, or nothing, I can do to prevent the abuse of our national flag except protest.

If the British Union Jack is ever abused again, by the Hongkong Automobile Association I shall resign forthwith, state my reasons and request they be recorded in the minutes of the relevant meeting.

AH KWAT

Young Girl Hurt

A five-year-old Chinese girl was knocked down and injured by a private car at the junction of Prince Edward Road and Lion Rock Road at about 1 p.m. yesterday.

The injured girl, Law Fuk yuen, of No. 52 Junction Road, ground floor, was removed to Kowloon Hospital where she is now detained for treatment.